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The Bates Student

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TUESDAY, JANUARY 26, 2010

LEWISTON, MAINE

Facilities Master Plan raises concern over future of arts spaces on campus

DANIELA REICHELSTEIN
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Art Commons held its first open house on Thursday, nearly a year after the student-initiated "Art-In" took place, an event where students secured a permanent space in Chase Hall to create and display art by showcasing their work and talent. Although Art Commons has just opened its facilities to the student body, its founders remain concerned about the space's future in wake of the Facilities Master Plan Update that may alter the structure and function of Chase Hall.

"The Art-In was a huge event," said Nora Brouder '12, one of the three directors of Art Commons. "Students were really pumped up and united over this one cause that could improve the Bates community. But since the Art-In, it's been an uphill battle to keep Art Commons and its ideals on the map. Nearly nothing is being said [in the Master Plan Update] about the future of [the] arts in Chase Hall, or even the future of the arts themselves."

The directors of Art Commons are specifically concerned about the alterations that will be made to Chase Hall after the implementation of the Master Plan. In a recent campus presentation made by the Facilities Master Plan Steering Committee, the updated plan placed Chase Hall among a cluster of new buildings near Campus Avenue that would house offices and activities normally found in a traditional campus center, according to Terry Beckmann, chair of the committee.

"These new buildings will contain all the current inhabitants of Chase including the spaces for art and student music groups," said Beckmann.

The committee has not yet fully determined the future of Chase Hall itself. "Although Chase Hall would be very expensive to renovate to current standards, it is possible that the original historic part of the building could be retained and play a role in housing those campus center functions," said Beckmann.

Although the committee has not yet adopted a finalized plan, it has developed a set of goals for the future of art facilities at Bates that entails multiple buildings with an art space.

"It is too soon to say exactly how, where and when various new, renovated or upgraded spaces for the arts and other initiatives will be built," said President Elaine Hansen. "But the broad principles are clear – rather than place arts facilities in stand-alone buildings at this time, we see an advantage in bringing performance areas into buildings we are renovating or designing, thus reaching more students and taking full advantage of Bates as a residential community where the arts become part of one's daily life."

President Hansen said the administration has been exploring ways to improve the arts on campus for the past two years as part of its Planning Process, and thus has

See ART COMMONS, page 5

BCSG candidates talk government to student body



GARDINER NARDINI/THE BATES STUDENT

GARDINER NARDINI
MANAGING NEWS EDITOR

At midnight this Wednesday, Jan. 27th, the Garnet Gateway polls will open for 48 hours to usher in a new set of democratically-elected Bates College Student Government (BCSG) Executive Council officers. The positions at stake include President, Vice President of Student Committees, Vice President of Student Clubs and Treasurer. Article II of the BCSG constitution mandates that the Executive Council is collectively authorized to craft the budget and direct government resources, make executive appointments, communicate with the College, and serve as a liaison between the student body, student organizations and the BCSG Representative Assembly.

In an effort to familiarize the student community with candidates pursuing 2010-2011 executive terms, the Election Judiciary Committee, under the direction of current Parliamentarian Michael Pasek '12, hosted a venue on Mon., Jan. 25th for those running to publicly affirm their views and respond to questions from a student audience. Of the candidates,

in attendance were Matthew Cocciardi '11 and Ally Mandra '12 competing for President, Cosmin Ghita '12, Erica Ong '11 and Ketu Vashakidze '11 competing for Vice President of Student Committees, Sangita Murali '12 competing for Vice President of Student Clubs and Hunter Archibald '12 running uncontested for Treasurer. Each was allocated five minutes to deliver a statement on his or her vision for future government, after which the floor was opened up to questions from the audience.

"I think, obviously, we hoped more of the student body would come out and show interest in the future of their own college," said Pasek, who moderated the event. "For those who did come out, whether to support a friend or engage themselves in the workings of the school, I think a lot of valuable information was relayed – regardless, we made progress towards a better tomorrow."

Many audience members agreed that the forum was effective in revealing meaningful information about their potential leaders. "I think it's good to get to know the candidates and what they stand for more intimately, and I do wish that a larger swath of the student body

had been in attendance" said Daniella Ritter '10, who attended the forum. "But the questions were very helpful."

Topics broached by the inquiring audience included how to resolve apparent tensions between the Chase Hall Committee and WRBC, ways to diversify and broaden participation in student government, and the circumstances under which it is appropriate for an official to assert his or her views over the alternative beliefs of constituents and colleagues.

"I thought the questions were helpful. It's important to be able to look closely at candidates. This year's meeting was better conducted than in the past," commented incumbent Executive Council President and onlooker Daniel Gimbel '10. "Last year there weren't as many people. This year was also notably less partisan, in that people seemed most interested in the issue positions of each candidate."

Refer to page five for more in-depth coverage of the candidates. Detailed information regarding the powers vested in individual executive offices can be found on the BCSG web server at <http://abacus.bates.edu/bcsg/index.html>.

Annual Bates-Yale debate brings battle of wits to College Chapel

ISOBEL MOILES
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Last Thursday, Jan. 21st in the College Chapel, the Brooks Quimby Debate Council continued its longstanding tradition of hosting Yale's team for an annual public debate. The Chapel was packed primarily with College students, though the audience also included President Elaine Tuttle Hansen and a smattering of community members.

Brooks Quimby was represented by Ariela Silberstein '10, Rachel Kurzius '10 and Matthew Marienthal '10. Silberstein opened the debate with a "buenos noches" and the proposal that "this house would create Spanish-language schools in California." According to her argument, these schools would allow Spanish speakers to engage with the

subject material of their classes without the language barrier that often prevents them from realizing their academic potential. Silberstein called upon the government's responsibility to provide equal education for all.

In the second speech of the evening, Yale's Steven Kryger argued that the English language must be mastered by Americans in order to access their rights of citizenship. He also emphasized the advantages of early immersion for young Spanish-speaking individuals. The proposed schools, Kryger posed, would lead to cultural fragmentation and prevent Spanish speakers from socializing with English-speaking classmates. He emphasized that Spanish speakers in the U.S. are already challenged on a daily basis, as the English language permeates American culture.

Yale debater Grant May then stood up to ask a Point of Information, which under Parliamentary Debate custom allows the opposing team to pose a question to reveal a weakness in the standing speaker's reasoning. May contended that Spanish speakers would never reach a proficient level of English if they did not pick it up until later on. He asked Kurzius, who began studying Spanish in high school, "How well do you think you'd do if this debate were in Spanish?" Kurzius replied: "Quite well, unfortunately for you," continuing to note that Brooks Quimby is in fact considering hosting a public debate in Spanish.

Colin Etnire '12 welcomed audience members to the podium to deliver floor

See BROOKS QUIMBY, page 5

Students organize Commons fast, other initiatives to fundraise for relief in Haiti

ERICA ONG
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

On Jan. 12th, 2010, Haiti was struck by an earthquake with a magnitude of 7.0 – the most powerful to hit the country in a century. The U.S. Geological Survey reported that the quake occurred shortly before 5 p.m. and was centered 10 miles southwest of Port-au-Prince. At least 10 aftershocks were recorded to have followed, including two with magnitudes of roughly 5.0. On Sunday, the confirmed death toll was raised to 150 thousand, but this number did not include other bodies recovered around the capital city. The Haitian government fears the toll could rise to as many as 300 thousand dead.

Efforts began quickly on campus to deliver aid to the country. Eric Mathieu '12, who has relatives in Haiti, recently created a Facebook group entitled "Bates Students for Relief in Haiti" to raise awareness and enable Batesians and their friends to get involved in the cause.

At 334 members as of Monday night, the group has received wall posts, pictures, comments and updates on the situation in Haiti. Mathieu noted that it was impressive to see how quickly students became members and demonstrated support.

Mathieu has also been working with the Multicultural Center and its director, Czerny Brasuell, to raise money to send to Haiti. Fundraising took place during Martin Luther King Day weekend and at the time this issue went to print over \$2000 had been raised. The "Party for a Cause," in collaboration with Bowdoin, is one of the many creative concepts being implemented to increase relief for Haiti. Mathieu intends to start a new organization to continue bringing awareness of Haiti's culture to Bates.

Mathieu noted that most of his closer relatives managed to survive the quake and its aftermath and that some of his younger cousins were flown to Florida on a military plane on Saturday. His cousins should be in New York later this week to join the rest of his family.

Students are also contributing to relief in Haiti through the one-meal fast from Commons on the evening of Tuesday, Jan. 26th. Over 930 students have signed up to give up dinner in Commons. The money raised will be sent to Haiti through Oxfam International. Mustafa Basij-Rasikh '12, a Multifaith Chaplaincy fellow, created the Commons fast fundraising after being troubled by the disaster in Haiti but inspired by the willingness to help within the student body. Basij-Rasikh said that the fast quickly became a campus-wide activity as JAs, RCs and clubs plan to provide pizza, refreshments and other incentives in lieu of dinner at Commons.

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Advancement Office now publishing donor information on College Web site

HUNTER ARCHIBALD
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Bates College recently published a list of donors on its Web site, a move that comes at an unsure economic time for the College. In addition to adhering to Bates' code of environmental conservation, the choice to publish donors on the College's Web site aims to both save the school money and boost its advancement by giving greater visibility and recognition to philanthropic activity.

Advancement and donations are particularly vital to College finances as current estimates show a budget deficit of around \$1.7 million for Fiscal Year 2012. This deficit is seemingly the result of the 30 percent decline in endowment size, the ambitious building plan recently undertaken to augment and improve campus facilities, and naturally growing costs of operating the school.

The decision to move from paper to electronic publicity was carefully considered by the Advancement staff. With the use of the latter, the staff has the ability to closely monitor who is viewing this information.

Vice President of College Advancement Kelly Kerner noted that the reaction to the change has been "largely positive, and I do not anticipate many, if any, negative implications with regard to giving." Kerner added, "The Report of Giving is one of many ways we acknowledge this generous group for all they have done, and continue to do, to make Bates great."

The decision to publish donor information on the Web site could also cut printing costs for the school and increase sustainability. The annual "Report of Giving" includes more than fifty pages. If this document were to be published, significant amounts of time and energy could be saved.

The "Honor Roll of Donors" can be found at <http://www.bates.edu/giving/report/donors>. However, the "2008-2009 Report of Giving" is not available for public viewing. The page can be accessed only by entering an e-mail address recognized by the Bates system, which then prompts the site to send an e-mail of confirmation with the page's link. The site has been thoroughly updated over the course of this past week.

The page makes use of the new sharp, updated format of the Bates homepage. Donors are listed on the site and divided into tiers based on the amount each has given. The donors with the largest contributions are found at the top of the page.

"With this strong trend toward electronic communication, it was natural for us to consider moving some of our communications to an online format," explained Kerner. "It was also very important to respect the College's longstanding tradition of environmentally sustainable choices and practices."

FORUM

The Bates Student

Two years later, some thoughts on making New Commons even better



REGINA TAVANI
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

The days of lining up along a ramp decorated with a mural of "The Canterbury Tales" and reading the day's menu handwritten on a chalkboard before entering the crowded, chaotic abyss of Old Commons seem like eons ago to us now. For juniors and seniors, the funky-smelling, kitschy wonder that was once our dining hall has become a distant memory. And for sophomores and first-years, Chase Hall Commons is merely an artifact of Bates history.

Since the opening of New Commons in February of 2008, we've all settled quite nicely into our new-and-certainly-improved dining experience. More seating. A larger variety of food. And most importantly, no residual smell left on your clothes for the rest of the day (anyone remember the "I Smell Like Commons" Facebook group of yore?).

I think most of the Bates community would agree that New Commons has not only been a critical update of our dining facilities, but a tremendous success in its own right. The vegan bar serves up delicious, fresh, eclectic fare enjoyed by both non-vegans and vegans alike. Our brick oven pizza is out of this world (and I say that after having spent a semester abroad in Italy). And on the breakfast side of things, the waffle irons have been a huge success.

As great as these and other improvements are, there are some aspects of New Commons that remain little changed from their predecessors in Old Commons. So take this editorial as an 11 x 17 inch "napkin" to Dining Services suggesting a few ways to kick our already excellent dining experience up to even greater heights.

Better bagels. The bagel situation at Commons is a serious issue. I even contemplated devoting an entire edito-

rial to the sad tragedy that is Bates' current bagel selection. Perhaps this has to do with the fact that I happen to have a special love of bagels. But bagel-lover or not, it's difficult to deny the reality that the bagels available to us are tasteless and quite often stale. I understand that ordering freshly-baked bagels every day would be far too large of a cost for Commons to incur, but how about some better quality packaged bagels? I've been eating Sara Lee bagels for years, and while they don't compare to the real thing, they're far better than whatever is served in Commons. Easily half

"Not long ago, a friend of mine jokingly commented that Commons has been slowly turning itself into an Asian buffet. Asian food is awesome, but enough is enough."

of the student population is either from New York City or grew up with bagels and lox on Saturdays. We deserve bagels that are at least a little more like the ones we are used to.

Fresh orange juice. With plague season just around the corner, we could all use an immune system booster. The orange juice concentrate currently available in Commons not only doesn't taste particularly good, but it lacks the Vitamin C of which fresh OJ is such an excellent source. I understand that, like fresh bagels, fresh orange juice is too expensive for a dining hall to serve in bulk. One possible solution to this would be for Commons to only serve orange juice on the weekends, or better yet, to serve it only during breakfast hours. Although importing orange juice from Florida and elsewhere goes

against Bates' commitment to locally-grown products, I think that in this case, the health benefits of orange juice outweigh the transportation distance.

More authentic pasta. I'm 75 percent Italian, so I'm biased about this one, but who doesn't like good Italian food? Good Italian food, unfortunately, doesn't consist of overcooked spaghetti, watery meat sauce and frozen meatballs. How great would it be if the Euro station lived up to its name and started serving some more authentic Italian dishes every once in a while? The spaghetti carbonara the other night was a step in the right direction, but it was lacking its signature egg and Parmesan sauce, forcing me to dowse it in Commons marinara sauce for some taste. The pork bits could have been larger, too. At any rate, some genuine Italian dishes, or even some gnocchi or cavatelli instead of bland rotini, would be great sometime. By the same token, the Euro station is deeply lacking in genuine dishes from other European countries, too. We're served sushi sometimes – why not tapas or escargot?

Cutting back on the Asian food. Not long ago, a friend of mine jokingly commented that Commons has slowly been turning itself into an Asian buffet. Asian foods of all types are awesome, but enough is enough. There are only so many ways you can spin teriyaki, and let's face it, when college kids want Asian food, the best option is always ordering in.

A Panini press. This one's just for fun. But how awesome would a Panini press or two be in Commons? All the ingredients are there – all that's missing is the final step for a delicious sandwich.

Of course, Commons is fabulous just as it is. But some big innovations every few years – bigger than introducing yet another dessert bar – will ensure that that fabulousness continues. Please, though, Commons, change your bagel supplier, or I may just have to begin bringing my own.

Recognizing the value of a liberal arts education in the face of unemployment



MARIAM ALAM
MANAGING
FORUM EDITOR

For many of us second semester seniors, the prospect of finding a way to support ourselves after graduation is becoming more and more daunting each day. Deadlines for job applications line up with due dates for thesis chapters. Countless resumes with prototype cover letters are mailed, faxed and e-mailed to Bates alumni, people our parents know, people we found on Craigslist, and that random guy we met in the airport.

But, for us Batesies, jobs remain few and far between. I know of only a handful of seniors with job offers for next year, and I certainly do not fall into that group. But though I find a lot of comfort in crediting our pervasive joblessness to the failing economy, I do not think that our nation's poor financial state is the only factor at play in the impending poverty that my classmates and I will face upon graduation.

Returning home for winter recess, I was shocked to find that the majority of my friends from high school already had jobs lined up for next year – and not just jobs waiting tables at local restaurants or working as secretaries in their mom's office. No, most of my friends from Connecticut's finest

specimen of suburbia have jobs in high-power investment banking firms, where they will be paid upwards of \$40,000 per year, with an iPhone and laptop thrown into the mix. Those friends who have not already secured a salary for after graduation spent a good portion of break commuting into New York City for interviews or meetings with potential employers. How could the job-hunting status of my friends from home so sharply contrast to the persistent yet unsuccessful searches of my Bates friends? Both groups are made up of talented, motivated and intelligent individuals, yet the home set seems formidably more employable.

My first thought in answer to this question was that my high school friends, hailing from a town infamous for both snobbery and success, simply had more connections than us somewhat oblivious Batesies: perhaps rather than hounding idealist.org for a potential job at an NGO, my friends from home had just dropped their resumes off with their JP Morgan investment banker neighbor and gotten a few interviews set up the next day. But many Bates kids go home to towns very much like my own, with similarly well-connected, successful neighbors. And while I think some truth lies behind my cynicism regarding the overt valuing of

See LOW EMPLOYMENT, page 4

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Poor student turnout at MLK Day events raises questions on optional attendance

ELANA LEOPOLD
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

One of the qualities that sets Bates apart from all other small Northeast liberal arts schools, and one of the things that I personally take pride in about this school, is its abolitionist founding. As we all know, Bates has had a truly egalitarian admissions process from the get-go, accepting both African Americans and women since the College's inception. Bates broadcasts this legacy – our admissions literature advertises this admirable past, and it is one of the first things mentioned on the tour. Lately though, I've been struck by the way that the College's history boasts values that are largely empty from our student body's sentiment.

This attitude was especially apparent when Bates celebrated the life and legacy of Martin Luther King, Jr. last week. Bates, unlike many of its peer institutions, suspends classes for the day and holds workshops inspired by King's work. This year, the 17 workshops and the keynote address were centered on the theme, "Religion and Faith in the Public Sphere." King Day is the only national holiday that Bates observes. The day's events are optional; attendance is not mandatory. For the past week, this has left

me unsettled – I've questioned whether or not classes should indeed be canceled. While I don't have specific numbers to cite for attendance, based on surveying my friends' participation and the noticeably empty portion of Olin concert hall's 300 seats (partially filled by a sizeable number of faculty

"The College cancels classes so we can immerse ourselves in contemplating King's ideals of social justice and equality, not so we can have a third day of the weekend."

and staff) during the keynote address, it seems safe to say that student attendance was low. Treated this way, it seems that King's legacy would be better served if classes were held. At least there would be some learning going on. As it is, suspending classes for King Day simply serves to foster a third (or fourth) night of drinking and another day to sleep late and fight a hangover. The College cancels classes

so we can immerse ourselves in contemplating King's ideals of social justice and equality, not so we can have a third day of the weekend.

It's discouraging to see that even with such an obviously intelligent student body, members of the Bates community can still be so apathetic. College is one of the few times in our lives when we are tasked with simply engaging in intellectual self-betterment. That the student body can't take an hour or two out of their day and find something of interest in at least one of the 17 offered events is rather despicable.

While I am disappointed by the lack of student turnout, I am hesitant to call for workshops being mandatory. This would potentially change the tone of the workshops, filling them with students unhappy to be there. At the same time, if Bates continues to suspend classes, there doesn't really seem to be much of a choice. Ideally, participation would come from personal desire, but clearly this isn't the case for most Bates students. That Bates celebrates the day is wonderful; King represents some of the most important progress our country has made. In its current iteration, however, the day largely accomplishes the opposite of what it should, leaving the majority of campus unaffected.

Bouncers, free-for-alls or queuing up: dealing with the absurdity of over-enrollment in popular classes



JAMIE CRAGNOLINE
ASSISTANT FORUM
EDITOR

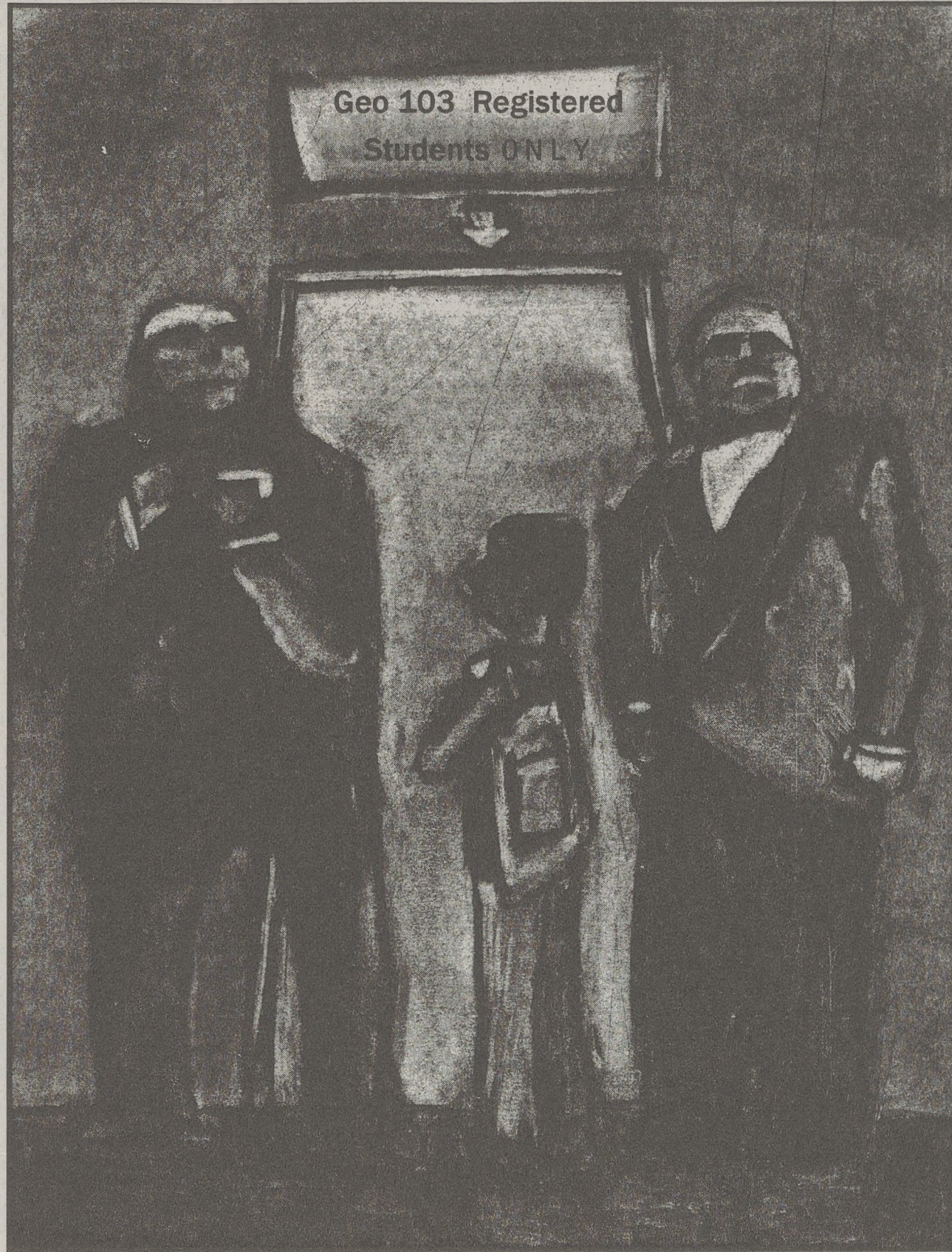
Add/drop period has officially come to a close.

Over are the two weeks of debating which classes we want to take before we are penalized for changing our minds. Somehow, I got into all of the classes I wanted this semester, which was quite a feat considering that they all appear to have upwards of 40 people (what happened to this small student-to-faculty ratio I was told so much about?). With a secure spot in all of my classes, I was able to sit back and watch just how difficult it can be to obtain spots in the classes that you want.

Now, I understand that professors are often put in difficult situations. Their classes have limits that they probably want to observe. Students who get bumped out by randomization will attempt to gain a spot via petition, but this cannot end positively for everyone. And if other people out there are like me, this automatic initial restriction on class choice only increases the extent to which you want to get into a class. As soon as I can't have something, I only want it more.

I suppose I am in some pretty hot commodity classes this semester. In fact, during my first week of class meetings, I observed several tense situations that I was nearly certain would end in violence, or at least some sort of scuffle. In several of my classes, the professors announced that the class was already overbooked and that they unfortunately would not be letting in anyone who was not already on the roster. This elicited gasps and shudders of horror from any unofficial class participants. Even when told that there were no more spots, thus making it senseless to remain in class for the remainder of the period, these individuals remained, clinging on to every last minute as if when they left the room they would be facing imminent death. If nothing else, I suppose this does speak highly of our determination to learn, even at the expense of personal humiliation.

How should we properly deal with these situations? Clearly, they are equally awkward for everyone involved. The



KELLY GOLLOGLY/THE BATES STUDENT

professor doesn't know how to tell someone that they can absolutely not, no-way-no-how, get into the class. The

hopeful student probably feels awkward because they are now sitting in a class where they are clearly not wanted,

but they don't want to get up and leave halfway through. And as an innocent bystander, I feel awkward witnessing

this situation and being one of the fortunate ones in the class (this also makes me a bit satisfied – maybe I should feel guilty about that).

In thinking about how to best handle these awkward situations, I've thought of a few options. Perhaps for the first week or so of classes, bouncers should be positioned by the doorways of all overbooked or seemingly popular courses. They can check the IDs of students as they enter to ensure that only those enrolled are admitted. They can reserve more aggressive behavior for when a non-enrolled student simply will not leave – which, as I have observed, can be quite often.

Or maybe we should be even more egalitarian. If someone is going to apply to a class, not get in, petition, not get in and still come to class in an attempt to get in, perhaps class registration should simply be a free-for-all. Show up in Pgill G52 at 1:10, and get ready to throw down. A few simple rules should apply – no hair-pulling, pantsing or eye-gouging. Last 15 people standing get spots in the class.

Alas, violence isn't always the answer – or so I tell myself. We've all seen what big fans we are at Bates of the rather useless wait-all-night-in-line-unnecessarily technique, the mode of choice for concert tickets. Maybe people should just line up outside of the respective classroom doors in anticipation of the first class. How early is early enough for the most popular classes? A couple of hours ahead of time? Dawn? The week before? The end of the prior semester? It is up to the individual to determine just how motivated they are to get into a particular class. Is it worth putting the rest of your life on hold for an entire week?

I suppose this all undermines the democratic and egalitarian principles upon which Bates is founded. To be honest, if anyone really does try hard enough to get into a class, they will get into it. I have certainly been that annoying person that continues attending a class in which I am not enrolled, badgering the professor until she lets me into the course. Most professors soften up eventually – or get absolutely exasperated. However, I do attest that it would be far more entertaining to watch students get thrown out of class on a regular basis. Perhaps for that reason alone, we should look into how to best keep classes at suggested enrollment.

BATES RATES

Newman Day



The hero passes away, the tradition lives on.

The Puddle Jump



Hopefully having gotten frostbite will gain us credibility in job interviews with Bates alums.

'90s Dance



A more relatable decade for the first-year hoardes to celebrate.

Rain in January



Taking away the only enjoyable aspect of Maine winters. Sorry, Lost Valley.

Share Your Opinion!

Anyone can write for the Forum section.

If you have a reaction or opinion you would like printed, please e-mail it to malam@bates.edu by 6 p.m. on Sundays.

The Puddle Jump tradition highlights Bates' charming eccentricity



LIZ MILLER
STAFF WRITER

Non-Batesies call us crazy. We jump into a hole in a small, freezing cold pond in the middle of January in Maine, just for the hell of it. Imagine if you were oblivious to this Bates tradition and someone suggested that you jump into a hole in a freezing "puddle," created by a host of drunk college students. However, here at Bates, the question "Are you going to jump?" is entirely normal. Now, I admit that I am not one to go crazy for Bates traditions. I'm no fanatic for sporting events and I rarely attend dances. However, the Puddle Jump is one tradition that receives my devotion. While there are a select few of my senior friends who have not once partaken in the glory that is the Puddle Jump, I feel that the majority of the senior class has participated in the occasion at least over the course of their Bates career. Some, twice. Some, all four years. This latter group of people is made up of hardcore enthusiasts we should all admire. Maybe someday when I am old, senile and have lost all mobility, I'll return to Bates to do the Puddle Jump again.

I have only done the Puddle Jump twice. As a first-year, I was a huge wimp, and junior year, I was abroad. After passing it up my first year, I felt totally lame. I knew if I didn't do it I would never truly embrace Maine winters and the possibility of frostbite. The Puddle Jump is a Bates tradition that shows how completely crazy we all are, barreled up together in a tiny place for months. How is it that a school without an exceedingly strong athletic spirit can

rev up an entire campus about such a ridiculous act? It is because we are all eccentrics, at least to some extent, and each in our own way. We thrive off of the ridiculous. We love the random. Usually falling on infamous Newman Day, the Puddle Jump can get a little wild with enthusiasm. It's a totally unprejudiced event where everyone is just happy to survive. It embraces the camaraderie of self-damage. It can be a sobering but energizing event. For many of us, getting half naked and almost stopping our hearts from shock is not

"Some schools may have giant football stadiums or huge parades, but we have a hole in a frozen 'puddle' awaiting any willing participant with open arms"

just a matter of tradition, but a matter of feeling alive.

Even for those not quite crazy enough to jump, there are sources of amusement to be had. First, there is the person with undoubtedly the best job at the event: the person who directs the jumpers into the hole. This person's job is to stand at the edge of the open water, whipping out some classy hand gestures to command the world of jumping, leading drunk students like cattle into a pen. They don't really want to be there, but they're clueless as to how

they got there. Those too shocked or stunned to pull themselves out provide this person with eternal gratitude for giving them an arm. For what more could a person ask?

Those who are merely spectators can bundle up, make some popcorn and get in a good chuckle. Crowded around the hole, they get up close and personal to the colorful spectacle. Jumpers' carnal and untamed sides are revealed as the adrenaline propels them into the water. They gasp for breath with their freezing bodies slapping and squirming against the ice to get out.

This year's Puddle Jump featured the first-ever costume competition as part of the event. Students from all over campus came dressed in everything from duck suits to fluorescent spandex. The flailing assembly of drunk or hyped-up college students plays out almost like a soap opera. Who will make it in without falling? Oh no, Girl A jumped with Boy B, whatever will Boy A say? All the while the spectators shiver in their warm, dry clothes and cheer that they aren't out there tripping and screaming.

The Puddle Jump even provides entertainment and intrigue for those potential students crazy enough to visit Bates in January. At first, Bates may seem like a campus just like any other, but oh, wait - there are two men with frozen hair running through campus in towels. This wonderful tradition shows potential applicants that there actually are fun things to do in Maine in the winter. We may be intoxicatingly absurd, but we know it and embrace it. Some schools may have giant football stadiums or huge parades, but we have a hole in a frozen pond awaiting any willing participant with open arms.

Digitiz

5

Age of a boy found holding a gun during a house search. Also found during the search: handguns, shotguns, rifles, samurai swords, medieval weapons and a homemade 18-inch cannon.

11

Age of a boy who reported to authorities that his mother and her boyfriend were drug dealers. Grounded.

200

Free tickets to Avatar that Google offered its China employees to soften the blow of losing their jobs after Google abandons operations in the country due to intense web censorship.

3

Number of violations Larry Booker has for indecent exposure, of which each time he was coated in either baby oil or corn oil. He told police he was slathered in oil because his skin was dry.

\$500

Amount of a bill that a Lebanese man used to tip a hotel staff, in turn tipping off police that he was laundering counterfeit bills, totaling an amount of \$66 million.

\$400,000

Amount that a Swedish man collected in benefits from Sweden's Social Insurance Agency for allegedly being disabled and wheelchair bound. It was discovered to be a hoax when police discovered photos in his home of him dancing with an amusement park's costumed rabbit mascot.

Source: Fark.com

Low employment rates among Bates seniors indicative of College's educational philosophy

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

"connections" in my town and ones like it, I believe a more far-reaching factor is at work in the variance in employment rates between my two sets of friends: Most of friends from high school attend large colleges and universities.

In last week's issue of The Student, Regina Tavani reported that "the overwhelming majority of employers (89 percent, according to a recent survey) still seek the kind of broad knowledge and abilities acquired through a liberal arts program" (NY Times). As Tavani suggests in her article, our well-rounded education, an amalgamate of numerous disciplines and philosophies, prepares us well for the "real world" in emphasizing critical thinking, effective communication, flexibility and creativity. But while I agree with Tavani on the values of a liberal arts education, along with trusting the validity of the cited survey, I think that we liberal arts graduates are at an inherent disadvantage in lacking access to the jobs for which our education so well prepares us. Though the Office of Career Services is an excellent resource at Bates, providing us with everything from online job search engines to mock interviews to literature on how to go about the job hunt, as a small college, Bates is for better or for worse incapable of providing its students with the vast network of alumni that our peers at Harvard, the University of Virginia and other large universities have at their finger tips. Bates' comparatively small enrollment rate, as well as its consequently non-existent post-grad network, only begins to shed light on the difficulty we seniors face in the job hunt.

What seems to be a greater force in our low employment rates is a difference in philosophies between schools like Bates and larger universities. At Bates and other liberal arts colleges, we go to school to learn. We are encouraged, and increasingly, forced (through

GECs and GenEds), to dabble in multiple disciplines. We are told from the start to delay declaring our major and to follow our intellectual curiosity to find what most inspires us. Our senior thesis is an opportunity to delve deeply into an issue we truly care about. With Bates' emphasis on learning for the sake of learning, I would hazard a guess that, unlike most American undergrads, Bates students would place "developing a meaningful philosophy of life" over becoming "very well-off financially" ("Making College Relevant," NY Times). Even the Office of Career Services, an office entirely devoted to career counseling, declares on their Web site that their mission is "empowerment, not placement" (bates.edu).

In contrast, larger universities seem to stress the more practical applications of an education. Business, a major not even offered at Bates, has been the most popular major nationwide for the past 15 years (NY Times). Some schools, such as the University of Texas, Austin, have begun offering classes such as "The English Major in the Workplace," specifically intended to spell out career applications of disciplines we at Bates appreciate solely for their intellectual value (NY Times). On the other end of the pedagogical spectrum from Bates lie glorified vocational schools such as Northeastern University, where the majority of students participate in the recommended "co-op" – a program in which undergrads spend up to three semesters in internships or experiential learning opportunities. Where Bates' undergraduate admissions Web site trumpets "joining the Bates community" to potential applicants, Northeastern's welcoming banner reads "40: Number of countries in which Northeastern students were employed in 2007-2008," highlighting the clear difference in the educational philosophies of the two institutions.

By forming ties to businesses and other professional organizations early

on, and in spending four years in classes targeted towards a specific career, students at schools such as Northeastern or the University of Texas, Austin, have the tools and networks necessary to finding a job with only a Bachelor's Degree in hand. Yet while this educational strategy surely has merit, as is evidenced by my high school friends' job security, I remain partial to our liberal arts education – even if it means that, come June, I will be living in my parents' house as the only unemployed 21-year-old in Greenwich, Connecticut. As John J. Neuhauser, President of St. Michael's College, a liberal arts institution in Vermont, notes, liberal arts colleges "are looking for an impact that last over decades, not just when you are twenty-two" (NY Times). Though our education may not have immediate repercussions in the career world, our extensive and varied background prepares us to form cohesive arguments, think analytically and adapt to new situations.

No, we do not have a limitless network of alumni, three semesters of internships under our belts or even a true sense of where our Rhetoric or Women & Gender Studies majors are going to take us. But we have appreciated four years of college as they were truly intended: in a welcoming, inquisitive community; with each semester on campus, among interested friends, personable staff and attentive faculty; with a well-rounded, liberal education. We have the rest of our lives to have careers and to live in the "real world." And though we may have a little more trouble finding our first job than do graduates of larger, more career-focused universities, we will ultimately be better prepared to adapt to and excel in our second, third and fourth jobs. In "empowering" us rather than "placing" us, Bates has developed in its graduates both the skills necessary to survive in the ever-changing job market and the curiosity that will make our eventual careers rewarding and worthwhile.

Shifting power to the minority: election of Scott Brown to U.S. Senate represents failure in American democracy

JOSEFINE WALLACE
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The election of Scott Brown as the next Senator from Massachusetts represents a failure in American democracy. This failure does not lie in Mr. Brown as a person, nor as a Republican, nor as a politician. The people of Massachusetts are free to elect whomever they wish as their next senator, be he or she Democrat, Republican or Independent. Such is their right, as citizens, as voters, and as Americans. Mr. Brown, for his part, is entirely free to believe what he wants and to run on whatever platform he sees fit. The failure, instead, lies in the organization of the U.S. Senate, and the powers bestowed upon Mr. Brown as a result of its organization. I am referring, of course, to the filibuster.

Under current practice in the Senate, the minority party can invoke the filibuster to delay a vote indefinitely. The practice began as a way in which the minority party could forcibly raise its voices in the face of a bill that it believed seriously departed from American values. Historically, in order to filibuster, senators had to physically take the floor and speak continuously for as long as they could keep the discussion going. Now, however, the mere threat of a filibuster from the minority party is enough to stop a bill in its tracks, without a senator ever taking the floor, much less making an extended speech. The only way in which the majority party can overrule a filibuster is with a majority of 60 votes. Because of this, in all of the controversial areas of policy, a simple majority is no longer enough to pass legislation; instead, a supermajority of 60 percent is required.

Until the death of Senator Ted Kennedy, the Democrats in the Senate had the requisite 60-man majority to break a Republican filibuster. It was because of this majority that Senate Democrats were able to pass drafts of a healthcare bill in spite of Republican opposition. However, with the election of Scott Brown, the Democrats no longer have that 60-man majority. The consequence of Massachusetts electing a Republican senator in Ted Kennedy's place is that the power of the filibuster, at least as it relates to healthcare, now rests entirely in the hands of Scott Brown. If he decides to cast a vote in favor of the healthcare bill, it will pass; if he voices his opposition to it, which is the more likely case considering his recent comments, the Republicans can filibuster eternally and prevent the bill from ever coming to a vote.

This is what I mean by the failure of American democracy. Even without the filibuster, the Senate as an institution is already one of the most undemocratic aspects of our government. Awarding two seats to each state regardless of population means that the 500 thousand citizens of Wyoming have as much voice as the 36 million citizens of California. With the filibuster, even a significant minority of senators can foil the will of the majority, turning mathematics upside down and proving that 41 is, in fact, greater than 59. The case of Scott Brown, however, underscores perhaps the most grievous insult that the Senate as interpreted today poses to America in giving the power to decide on the fate of healthcare to one senator out of 100, to one state out of 50, to six out of 300 million people.

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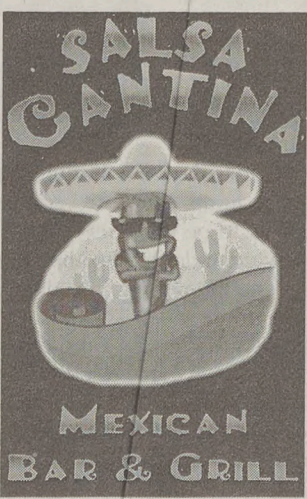
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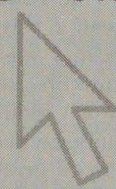
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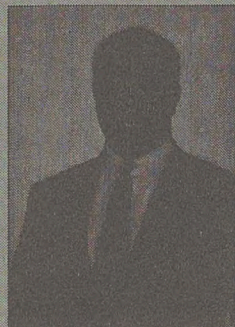
The Bates Student

BCSG election coverage

President

"I entered this race because I have the necessary experience to take over on day one as President of the Bates student body. I want to get Bates on the right track again. I have served in the Representative Assembly the last three years and my many committee assignments have allowed me to grasp what really matters to Bates students. I currently serve on the Bill and Hedge Committee, Food Advisory Committee, Student Athletic Advisory Committee, Faculty Advisory Committee, and the President's Advisory Committee."

Matthew Cocciardi '11



"I am running for the position of Student Body President because I believe it requires someone who is representative of the general student population. As the BCSG constitution states, 'the role of the executive council is to empower the student body and student clubs, allowing for all to voice their concerns and opinions to the Representative Assembly so that the students' will shall be known.' I therefore am not entering this election with any personal agenda. Rather I hope to serve as a voice for Bates students, and insure what is best for both the school overall, and us, the students."

Ally Mandra '12



Matt Hopes To...

- Update our athletic facilities, which need to be updated to the caliber of other NESCAC schools.
- Pick up the charge as it pertains to making the Den a pub. It appears these talks have stalled.
- Make the GEC system easier to understand.
- Secure more funding for student clubs so students can get more involved in the community, which will in turn make us a more tight knit institution.
- Bridge the gap between the student body and the student government so people will know what we do besides passing a budget.

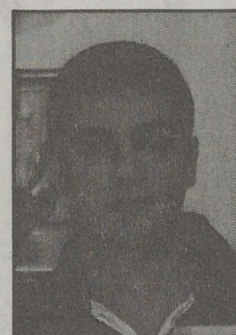
Ally Hopes To...

- Work to make the BCSG much more accessible to students.
- Take on the task of making the general student population more aware of the government's actions.
- Foster the kind of discussion necessary to produce the best outcome- one that doesn't come from an election with just one candidate. This is a discussion that must take place between the students, regarding what they feel is best for their school.
- Actively preserve Bates' unique sense of community, in which everyone is involved in different activities and pursues distinct interests, yet comes together to support each other or specific causes. This sense of community is what makes us Batesians.
- In a general way to communicate the needs and concerns of the students with the student government, and the administration, and through doing so, make sure that every student is as happy as I am with my experience at Bates

Vice President of Student Committees

"Student Committees are an important aspect of our daily lives at Bates College- they influence what Bobcats will eat, how the new buildings will look, what should be invested in, where we park our cars and even what type of academic approach should be adopted. I have decided to run as VP of Student Committees not only because I believe I can do the job well, but because I believe that I can use the job to expand student engagement. Let's face it: most Batesians are not involved with student government. I have noticed that a handful of the same students hold a number of positions on committees. As VP of Student Committees, I want to bring in more students instead of having the same half dozen or so people on several committees. I think we can all agree that the more people we can get involved, the better the interests of Bobcats will be represented and addressed and thus the better government will be."

Cosmin Ghita '12



Cosmin Hopes To...

- Ensure a healthy, consistent, flow of information between the committees and the student body by setting up a weekly poll for various committees in a visible web-space of our Community, such as the Bates Website.
- Have an open meeting of one of the confidential committees to illustrate the community how these work and how faculty, administration and the student body come together.
- Have the different specialised committees give their input regarding a draft bill; this will enhance the democratic process at Bates by having more specialised input.

Vice President of Student Clubs

"Despite a successful past year, there are still a number of key areas at Bates that need focused, planned, and consistent attention. I feel that I will bring a new energy and enthusiasm to the group. Furthermore, I am ready to work with enthusiasm for your benefit. I do not strive for authority for the sake of authority, and if you elect another candidate, I will sincerely wish him all of success in improvement of our student's life for the better - and continue my own struggle. But if you do empower me with your confidence, I will do everything I can to represent your interests and achieve our common goals and ideals. I am sure that our aims coincide - we are all here to obtain a great education and provide for a healthy collegiate experience for the years ahead. If you empower me with your trust, we will start from solving local problems and making Bates an even more enjoyable place."

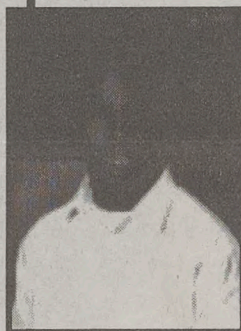
Sangita Murali '12



Sangita Hopes To...

- Promote communication throughout club leaders. If elected, I hope to meet with club leaders a few times per semester, rather than once every two years, to discuss club projects and maintain that clubs remain active throughout the year.
- Quickly and efficiently review prospective clubs' constitutions. This is important since currently there are several clubs waiting to hear back from the ORB and RA on whether their Constitutions have been accepted and their proposed clubs will be active.
- Better utilize available resources. One example of this is taking advantage of Wind-Down Wednesdays! For those of you who do not know what this is, the Student Activities Office has reserved the Small Room in Chase Hall every Wednesday night for events to take place. Clubs can sign up to watch movies together, play a rousing game of table tennis, or throw a dance party! \$150 is already provided to the club that is hosting the event so in some cases, a club does not even have to take money out of their own budget to host their event.

Christopher Boyd '13



Boyd did not make a statement available at the time this publication went to print.

Treasurer

"I plan to carefully attend to and track the finances of the clubs and organizations funded by the student government. I will make sure each club is outfitted with the necessary funds for its maintenance. I will be a strong leader for the Budget Committee."

I am a dedicated member of the Representative Assembly with experience in college finances. As a member of the Bates Finance Advisory Committee I have been able to observe how school funds are managed and tended. I will help advise the President and the RA on financial matters. I will be careful and fair in helping clubs get the money they need to operate. I am Hunter Archibald and I look forward to serving as treasurer at Bates."

Hunter Archibald '12



Erica Ong '11



"Bates has so much potential and I want to play my part by doing what I can for Bates and its community. Small changes here and there can make a big difference, especially in terms of communication and efficiency between administration, students and student government. There's a lot that can be done."

"I have served as a Vice President of Student Committees for the year of 2009. With a great support and help of the Committee on Committees members, I think I was able to improve a lot the committees' performance on campus. But the whole year experience of being a Vice President of Student Committees helped me to understand that there are still lots of things that need to be improved for ensuring committees' effective functioning. That's why I really hope I'll get your support and thus have an opportunity to ensure strong and effective performance of committees presented at Bates College."

Keti Vashakidze '11



Keti Hopes To...

- Work closely with the faculty chair of the committees, John Baughman on restructuring the committees and thus ensuring the committees' effective functioning.
- Continue assigning different Committee on Committees members to different committees and thus monitor the committees' performance. If I get reelected for vice presidency of student committees I'll advertise even more the committees presented on campus and thus attract bigger applicant pool for different committees.
- Foster strong and effective student and faculty-student committees, which will be the main priority of my vice presidency.

Campus relief programs aid disaster in Haiti

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

mons. Commons is donating \$1.80 for each dinner forgone.

Currently, there are 1.5 million people in Haiti that are homeless, and the death toll continues to climb. To donate to Haiti's cause, please contact Mathieu or text YELE to 501501 to make a \$5 donation. The donation will simply be added to your phone bill.

"People should not forget the earthquake and its devastation just because it's been over a week," said Mathieu. "[Haiti is] going to need a lot of help to get anywhere close to getting back on their feet."

Brooks Quimby, Yale debate school integration for students, Lewiston public

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

speeches supporting either side. One student who spoke was a young woman from California who moved through the state school system with Spanish as her primary language. She supported separate schools.

The final Bates speech was delivered by Brooks Quimby President Matthew Marienthal, who noted the possible stigmatization of Spanish speakers who might find themselves in special education programs, lose confidence and perform poorly in school as a result of the language barrier. Yale debater Grant May, recognized as one of the finest debaters of the country and no stranger to the College Chapel podium, brought audience members to the edge of their seats in the final speech of the night. He reminded the crowd of Brown vs. Board of Education, the 1954 Supreme Court decision that ruled that separate is inherently not equal, arguing that American culture is richer and more integrated when everyone is learning together. He stressed that prejudice and xenophobia are dispelled through constant integration.

In a public debate, the "winner" is determined by the team receiving the loudest cheer. Results were not entirely clear, but there was consensus that it was a lively and well-attended exchange between two of the country's most renowned debate teams.

"We really enjoyed it. Bates clearly cares a lot about debate," remarked May. Marienthal agreed that the Chapel pews were impressively filled. "It's great to see so much support from Bates for an activity we view as worthwhile - helping us think about important issues."

Art Commons directors concerned

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

the future of the arts in mind.

"This focus on the arts has thoroughly informed the Campus Facilities Master Plan Update," she said. "We agree with the Arts Initiative team that the first Art-In in Chase last year was an expression of student longing for physical space, but also a cultural, social, psychic home for students as artists."

After an open house featuring music by DJ Kid Consumption, cookies provided by Commons and mural painting on walls, the current founders and directors of Art Commons stressed the key role the space will play in encouraging art majors and non-art majors alike to pursue art.

"For many students at Bates, the only avenue for creating artwork on campus

is through the often crowded art courses offered primarily to art majors," said Matt Reynolds '10, a director of Art Commons. "This space serves a symbolic purpose, because it embodies the demand for more art facilities on campus, but also a practical purpose, because it is a space available to all student artists."

Art Commons is also an asset to campus because it not only provides a place for students to create art, but also a place to display it, said director Charlotte Brill '10.

"The student gallery component of Art Commons is necessary," she said. "Not only does it allow for an additional way in which to learn about and experience the arts for the Bates community, but it also allows those who create artwork to receive more exposure."

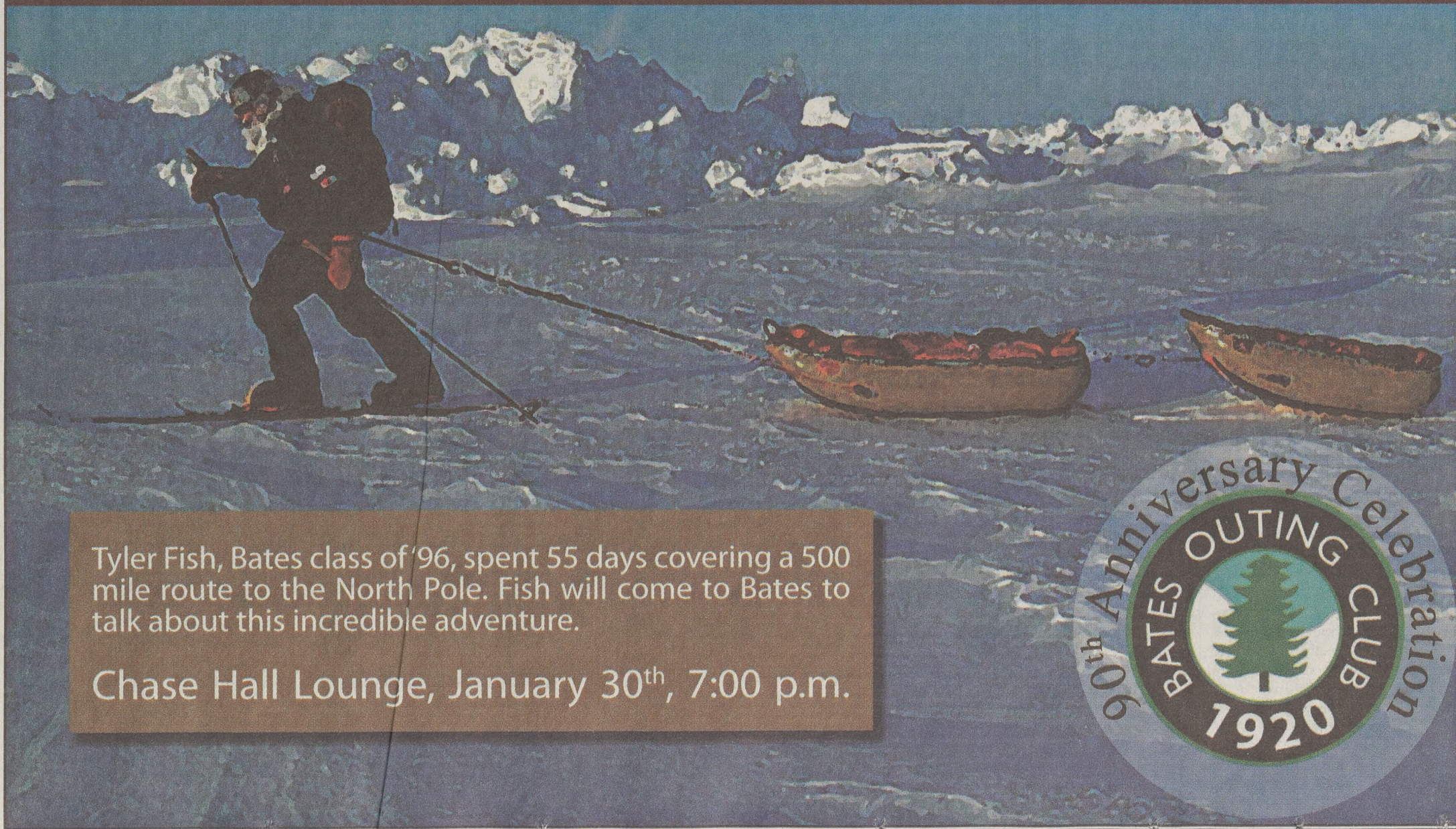
Winter Carnival



PHOTO CREDITS CLOCKWISE FROM UPPER LEFT CORNER: KAITLIN WEINMAN, JUDSON PECK, KAITLIN WEINMAN, JUDSON PECK, LINDSAY THOMSON, THE BATES STUDENT

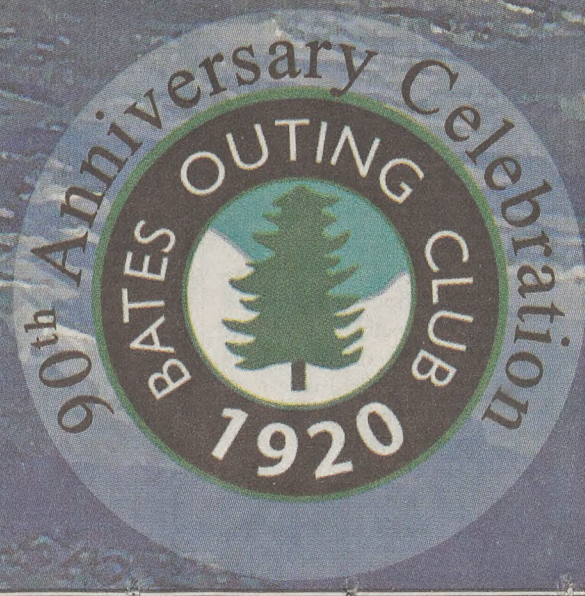
The First Unsupported American Expedition to the North Pole

An Expedition of Optimism, Humanity, and Responsible Action



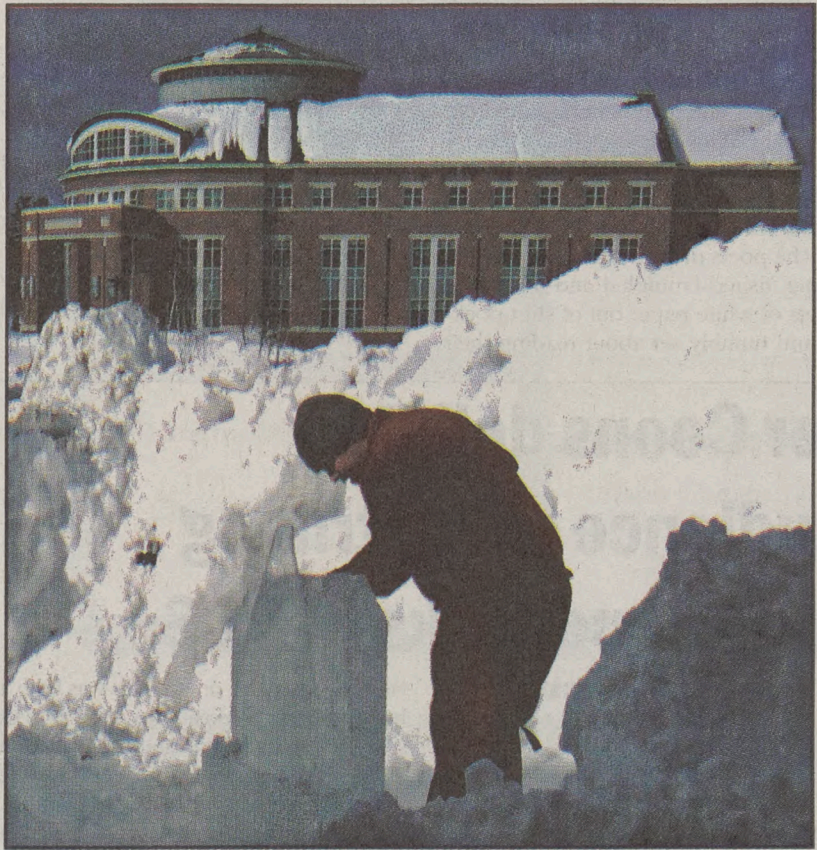
Tyler Fish, Bates class of '96, spent 55 days covering a 500 mile route to the North Pole. Fish will come to Bates to talk about this incredible adventure.

Chase Hall Lounge, January 30th, 7:00 p.m.



ARTS & LIVING

Icy art warms up campus



GARDINER NARDINI/THE BATES STUDENT

As part of Winter Carnival, an ice sculpture was crafted outside of Commons.

Despite fashion flusters, '90s Dance earns spot as new Bates tradition

LINDA KUGBLENU
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Saturday night marked that time of the year when students come together after a stressful week of writing papers and doing lab reports to celebrate the third annual '90s Dance, sponsored by the Chase Hall Committee, marking the end of Winter Carnival.

Excitement over '90s music and costumes was palpable. Some students seemed to have planned their outfits far in advance while others had to take last-minute turns riding the Bates Shuttle into Lewiston-Auburn before the dance.

The concept of a dance theme based on the 1990s is an interesting one considering that some first-years and sophomores may have been born in the '90s. And although juniors and seniors were probably born in the 1980s, students find it easier to envision

the 1980s and the costumes appropriate for that dance than they do for the '90s dance.

"It is close enough that we actually lived it, but [we] were too little to know about its fashion," explained Catherine Frye '13. '90s culture seems to be less iconic than the 1980s, perhaps because we are not far enough removed.

Despite this confusion, most dance attendees knew what outfits they were gunning for. Spunky overalls, converses, leggings, plaid shirts, gold chains, hoop earrings, wife beaters, red lipstick, and belly button workout shirts were popular items.

The live music by Fast Band featured several alternative hits from the '90s. Although some students expected more Spice Girls or Backstreet Boys in the band's set list, they still seemed to have fun dancing and screaming to famous tunes.

Club Babylon alternative: live music at Nezinscot Farm



COURTESY PHOTO/BRADLEY GEE

Christian Ruiz '12 and Alec Greenberg '12 join local musicians playing at last Thursday evening's Music and Craft Fest at Nezinscot Farm in Turner.

KRISTEN MOREAU
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Nezinscot Farm invites musicians of all abilities to join their new folk music jam sessions, held on a monthly basis.

Last Thursday evening, a dozen local musicians gathered to play at least seven different types of string instruments, including the cello, mandolin and an overturned washbasin affixed with an upright broomstick and plucking string.

While musicians may have outnumbered listeners, attendees from the Verse and Local Living houses enjoyed an intimate, restful evening off campus, tucked away in the farm's yarn loft.

Some students participated in the music-making, playing an extra set of drums while others played checkers, knitted, did homework or played with the owner's young children and dogs. Coordinator of the Local Living House Liana Blum '12 found out about last Thursday's event from an from Gloria Varney, owner of Nezinscot Farm.

Blum stays in close contact with the farm since the Local Living House volunteers there once or twice a month to fulfill their theme house requirements. Students typically work in the yarn shop or help with labeling

jars and packaging in the kitchen.

Last Tuesday, the Local Living House invited all students to join them in volunteering at the farm. Thursday night's trip, however, was the first non-volunteer trip sponsored by the Local Living House.

Hosted during prime dinner hours, this ongoing event would have benefited from offering more than coffee and tea. Nezinscot's reputation for serving irresistible food, despite the expense, could easily draw a wider audience into the evening hours, if only in a self-service capacity.

In fact, no one appeared to be at the register to sell the farm's pre-packaged goods and treats. The event was also initially billed as a "Music and Craft Gathering," but crafts were largely absent from the evening.

However, Varney took the opportunity to announce new additions to the Nezinscot inventory: supplies for musical instruments will soon be available for purchase.

She plans to stock primarily replacement parts and new strings for many types of instruments, rather than the instruments themselves, with one notable, though curious, exception: "some assembly required" cardboard banjos will be hitting Nezinscot shelves soon. Bring yours to next month's gathering.

The Bates Student

Suzanne Vega entertains and enlightens students, community

CHARLES THAXTON
ASSISTANT ARTS & LIVING EDITOR

Bates welcomed acclaimed singer-songwriter Suzanne Vega for an evening of performances and a two day residency this past weekend. The New York-based Vega entertained and engaged with students, faculty and members of the Lewiston community in two workshops on Friday and a pair of performances on Saturday night.

Vega has been performing her growing catalog of songs since the early 1980s, but she has been writing songs since she was 14 years old. She studied dance in high school and went on to study literature at Barnard College in Manhattan. Indeed, it is the New York landscape that typifies and colors many of Vega's songs. "Tom's Diner," one of her most popular hits, is a slice-of-life capella tune about the iconic diner, Tom's Restaurant, near Barnard.

In her second workshop, "The Business of the Arts," Vega discussed her early career and more contemporary issues. She dissuaded budding artists from the pedigree or 'road to success' often extolled by those in the business.

For years, Vega was told there was a very specific lineage of coffeehouses in which she had to play to gain notoriety in New York. She would demo her songs for the owners of the club and get rejected. Finally, she decided to simply rehearse at the more prestigious clubs and she was granted opening slots.

Vega is sometimes referred to as "the mother of the MP3" because of a famous anecdote about the German audio engineer who was inspired by Vega's song, "Tom's Diner," to create a format with compression precise enough to accurately capture Vega's warm a capella voice.

Vega seemed knowledgeable and interested in the intersection of technology and music. She discussed her thoughts about the changing face of

the music industry and shared some personal anecdotes. Her stepfather was a writer and academic whose biggest lesson for his daughter was to express herself. Her mother, a computer systems analyst, urged her daughter to always make sure she made a living. It is the intersection of this parental advice that makes Vega's career so interesting and her

told the story of how her record label was initially up in arms about the remixes and urged legal action. Vega was ultimately able to work out compromises with these artists, and said that she found a lot of the remixes quite flattering.

Vega wrapped up the hour-long session with a discussion of music's permanent place in the face of sometimes fleeting trends and changes. Music is ultimately a kind of relationship, an interpersonal experience, Vega said. "Sometimes all that matters is Leonard Cohen's voice...in the dark...in my room," she reflected.

Her concert Saturday night revealed that this interpersonal tendency is still at the heart of Vega's songwriting and performing. Vega took the stage with a lone bass player for accompaniment, and later a string quartet. Vega performed renditions of her catalog, saving her two biggest hits, "Luka" and "Tom's Diner" for last. The normal a capella version of "Tom's Diner" benefited from some interesting string accompaniment and rounded out the evening nicely.

Vega also engaged the audience in banter and stories between the songs. Before playing "New York Is a Woman,"

Vega routinely asks the audience what their city is like. She could not seem to remember what city Bates was located in, however. She appealed to the audience, who claimed that Lewiston was best personified as an "out of work male." Sharing another anecdote, Vega spoke of playing with Leonard Cohen at one of his recent concerts, noting that his dressing room was full of fedoras.

Vega's voice is still quite young and vital in nature, which came through best in her longer, more folk-like ballads, but also in her hits

Vega graciously thanked her audience of mostly Lewiston residents and various students choosing to forgo the '90s dance. They were there to witness an artist born of the 1980s, whose talent and wisdom resonates equally with older fans and first-time listeners.



COURTESY PHOTO/OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MEDIA RELATIONS

Acclaimed folk-pop singer-songwriter Suzanne Vega led two workshops and performed two concerts during her two day residency at Bates last weekend.

Open art gallery displays student creativity in new Art Commons space



KAITLIN WEINMAN/THE BATES STUDENT

Students work on a mural as part of the open art gallery held in Art Commons last Thursday. Students were invited to bring in their artwork from last semester to be displayed at the gallery through this week. Art Commons, located in Chase Hall, was secured almost a year ago as a student space dedicated to the practice of the arts.

Off-campus arts events

Atrium Gallery at USM L-A: 51 Westminster St., Lewiston

- **The Inspired Hand**—Biennial exhibition of contemporary crafts and hand-wrought sculpture by members of the Maine Crafts Association. Features work by Bates ceramics professor Paul Heroux. FREE.
- On view through March 26. usm.maine.edu/lac/art

The Public Theatre: 31 Maple St., Lewiston

- **Visiting Mr. Green**—Award winning Off-Broadway comedy comes to L-A. "Odd Couple" humor addresses intolerance in the community.
- Jan 29-31, Feb 4-7. Student rate \$16. thepublictheatre.org

Gallery 5: 49 Lisbon St., Lewiston (next to Fuel)

- **Pixels: Part of a Whole**—Imagery including, but not limited to, the digital world. Confronting components, units, pieces, fragments. FREE.
- On view Jan 29-Mar 29. <http://www.laarts.org/visual/gallery-5.htm>

RECOMMENDED: FREE exhibition opening, Friday, Jan 29, 5pm

Franco-American Heritage Center: 46 Cedar St., Lewiston

- **F.A.B. Dance Showcase**—Contemporary dance performance including professional dancers from national and regional troupes, as well as Bates students and faculty members.
- Feb. 6, 7:30p.m. Student rate \$12. francoamericanheritage.org

Institute of Contemporary Art at MECA: 522 Congress St., Portland

- **EXCHANGE**—Explores collaboration as the means to transfer ideas and generate new modes of thinking. Features diverse collaborative approaches including the joining of arts and letters, the merging of the physical boundaries of the human body, and a project requiring the participation of ICA visitors. FREE.
- On view through Apr. 11. www.meca.ed

Portland Museum of Art: 7 Congress Square, Portland

- **Collage: Piecing it Together**—Contemporary collages contrasted with the revolutionary mixed media work by masters like Kurt Schwitters, Jean Arp and Joan Miró.
- On view through Feb. 28. Student rate \$8. portlandmuseum.org

SPACE Gallery: 538 Congress St., Portland

- **Free for All**—A curatorial experiment involving an open call for submissions without an artist's entry fee, artwork exhibited floor to ceiling. FREE. Beer, wine and snacks served the night of Feb. 5th.
- On view through Feb. 18. www.space538.org

COMPILED BY KRISTEN MOREAU

Robinson Players present fourth annual Bobcats on Broadway revue

KELLY COX
ASSISTANT ARTS & LIVING EDITOR

Last Saturday night, friends and family of Bates' Broadway-bound performers formed an eager crowd outside of the Benjamin Mays Center. Hit show tunes filled the versatile space as people filled the seats, lined the walls and perched on railings. The audience buzzed with excitement in anticipation of the fourth annual Bobcats on Broadway, a revue of a variety of musical numbers produced by The Robinson Players.

Caroline Servat '10 and Schuyler Rooth '11 dressed in glitz for their role as emcees, providing comical banter as transition between pieces. The musical acts were performed fluidly thanks to musical directors Travis Jones '13 and Rooth, and stage managers Glynis Nadel '10 and Nicolette Robbins '11. Different musical numbers were either accompanied by pianists Henry Bodkin '10, Sarah Vigne '12 or Sonali Reese, wife of Associate Dean of Students James Reese. Margaret Koerber '10 assisted in helping some performers get wigs, sequenced hats and other props from the Bates Theater's costume shop.

Katie Black '12 sang "Summer in Ohio," a ragtime-sounding piece from "The Last Five Years." Black's humorous selection highlighted her ability to switch from her head voice to blunt, spoken words, which is a crucial skill in musical theater.

Olivia Norrment-Smith '13 and Spencer Collett '13 performed "Suddenly Seymour," a romantic duet from "Little Shop of Horrors." Collett's smooth tones and square-rimmed glasses were Rick Moranis-worthy, and Norrment-Smith's voice dominated the air in the Mays Center. The charismatic love song ended with a

kiss and flawless key changes.

Israel Piedra '12 sang "Old Man River" from "Showboat," with a moving timbre that would make bass baritone William Warfield blush. Piedra's soothing voice emitted pure talent with a natural range fit for this solo.

in the short number.

Molly Radis '10 sang "If I Were A Bell" from "Guys and Dolls," a swanky serenade that showcased her talents as a soprano and as an actress. Radis was accompanied by the solid support of Mark Stehlik '10.

Lauren Christianson '12 performed "Dance, Ten, Looks, Three," from "A Chorus Line," a short but powerful ditty that showed that the spunky girl is far more than "t and a."

Gwen Caffrey '11 delivered "Happily Ever After" from "Once Upon a Mattress," soulfully belting this amusing piece that mocks fairy tale princesses.

Gina Petracca '10 and Lily Gordon '10 delivered the Broadway-worthy performance with the singing and dancing number "Hot Honey Rag" from "Chicago." The uppity piece was accented with charming choreography.

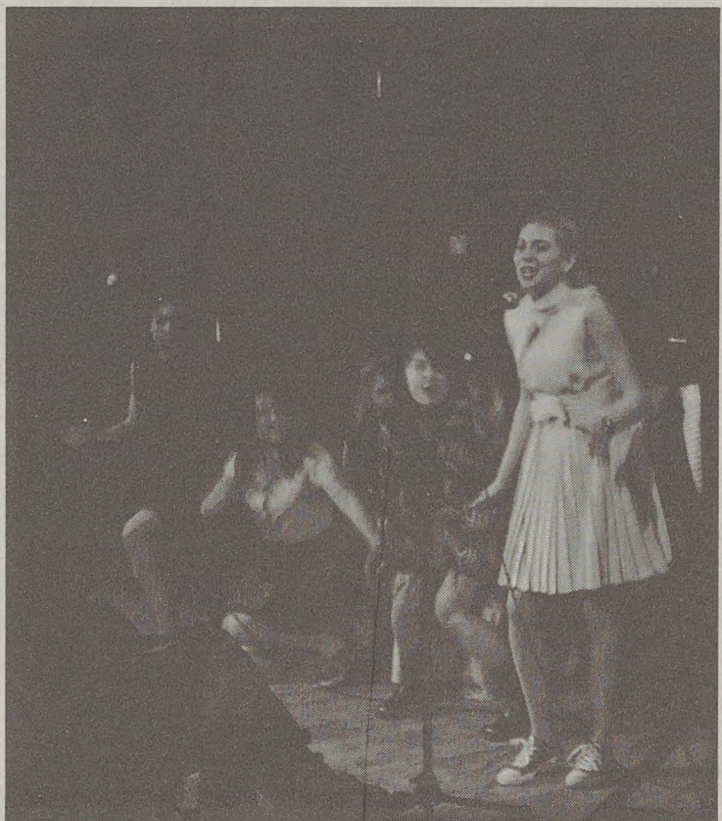
Ending the show was "Without Love" from "Hairspray," performed by Guerrero, Manchester, Norrment-Smith, Phoebe Uricchio '10, Allegra Scharff '11, Nick Blomberg '11, Megan

Guynes '11, Elva Li '12, Kim Liaw '12, Abby Merson '12, Max Arnell '13, Conor Maginn '13 and Ted Wells '13.

The night demonstrated that, although Bates does not produce much musical theater, there are Broadway lovers among us.

"Although there are many a cappella groups, a variety of dance, and numerous theater opportunities on campus, the musical revue provides students with a moment to shine in all three areas," said Jones.

The Robinson Players will present The Vagina Monologues on Feb. 5th, 6th and 7th, as well as a one-act festival in March.



KELLY COX/THE BATES STUDENT

Students perform "Without Love" from "Hairspray" in the final number of The Robinson Player's fourth annual Bobcats on Broadway.

Abby Merson '12 and Segundo Guerrero '12 performed "Therapy" from "Tick, Tick Boom," presenting energetic personalities in a comical fugue. Beaming smiles and animated, physical humor made it apparent that these singers are limelight-worthy.

Haley Manchester '12, Kate Fetrow '13 and Courtney Lemenze '13 mastered jumping rhythms and high notes during "You Could Drive a Person Crazy" from "Company," a musical about three women competing for one man. Aligned with the song's theme, the trio in little black dresses stressed strong, individual femininity

Student poets demonstrate lyrical talent at third annual student poetry reading

SIMONE PATHE
MANAGING ARTS & LIVING EDITOR

On a weekend when many Batesies are submerged – literally – in the Puddle, Newman Day and the '90s Dance, a group of fifteen to twenty students gathered at the Ronj late Saturday afternoon for entertainment of a different sort. The third annual student poetry reading, sponsored by the Verse House, featured eight students reading selections from mostly their own work.

The poets mounted the stage one at a time, fished crumpled and folded up sheets of white paper out of shirt pockets and humbly set about reading their

pieces. The audience, closely gathered around the stage, listened attentively and chuckled at the introduction to a poem about living in Smith or about the strange collection of objects found in a father's drawer, or the prospects of doing acid.

Most of the poets read two selections, some long, rhyming or didactic; others short and seemingly personal. The reading, which lasted less than half an hour, was a good display of poetic lyricism and is suggestive of the talent among students.

The Verse House hosts monthly readings at which students are invited to share original work.

Jer Coons delights audience with striking tunes and looks at VCS

NICOLETTE WHITNEY
STAFF WRITER

Many students have anticipated the day of Jer Coons' arrival on The Village Club Series set for the better part of the academic year. Days before the show, it was impossible to walk down an Adams hallway without hearing the melody to "Legs" or "Speak" through the cracks of half-open doors. An hour before the show on Thursday, the front row seats had already been claimed by a group of very giddy fans, and Coons had already started warming up.

Twenty-year-old Coons is a Vermont native. The first song that he learned how to play on the guitar was "Wonderwall" by Oasis. Coons hit an all-time high in his career with the release of his latest album, "Speak," in 2009. His first single, "Legs," has been played in the clothing store Hollister. Coons remarked that the song was "received extremely well."

His genre has an acoustic-inclined pop-rock feel to it, which Coons explained as the "boring" title for the description of his genre. He preferred to describe his style as "experimental post-jazz, politically infused soul with an environmental conscious twist navigating around the pop idiom dipped in choco-

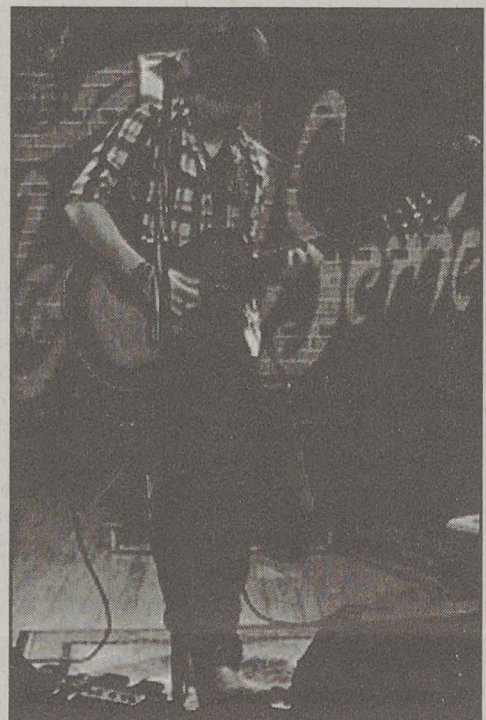
late with sprinkles on it." This was both a humorous and serious topic for him. His songs are unique and can be classified in different genres depending on the style of the song.

During the show, Coons played a song that he had recently written entitled "Up All Night." Before performing it, he told the crowd that it made his mother cry. His music is both sensitive

and endearing. He incorporated different covers of songs, including those by The Jackson 5 and The Postal Service. He used his looping pedals creatively to add effects that made the covers sound flawless.

Coons' musical talents are not his only attraction; many Batesies also fawned over his charming looks and striking personality. As one devoted fan, Hillary Bok '12, explained, "He is just the cutest." Bok even stayed after the show with a few other fans and chatted with Coons

in person. He performed a song entitled "HPV" that he wrote for a high school health class project, and which is now on his latest album, to the few girls who stuck around. Coons' intricate music style and his personable qualities guaranteed a fantastic show.



BRIGID DUNN/THE BATES STUDENT

On a return-trip to Bates, Vermont-native Jer Coons performed at this year's Winter Carnival Village Club Series.

Overheard at Bates

TMI...?

One guy to another: Dude, if she doesn't touch my wiener, I'm going to be so mad.
~Hacker House

Plant utility...

Student 1: Hey man, I bought a plant at the plant sale.
Student 2: Oh yeah, what is it?
Student 1: It's an aloe. It's medicinal. I have no idea what to do with it.
~Alumni Walk

Distance makes the heart grow fonder...

Girl: So, are you still with your girlfriend from home?
Guy: Yeah. The long distance thing isn't hard, but I have a huge crush on her little sister, which is kind of an issue.
~Commons

Confusion...

Boy to girl: Hey, do you know where the printers are on the third and fourth floors of the library?
~Library

Commons as the new library arcade...?

I don't know how I feel about Music in Commons. I mean, I want to have a dance party, but yet, I'm eating my dinner...
~Commons

Just havin' a little fun...

Security guard: Come on, this party is over.
Student: Hey! Why aren't you smiling? THIS IS BATES COLLEGE!
~Herrick House

Hear something funny that needs to be shared? E-mail your overheards to mrouvali@bates.edu

CALENDAR

The Bates Student

Wednesday, January 27

State of the Union Address
Benjamin Mays Center
8 p.m.

Watch the State of the Union with the
Bates College Republicans

Chase the Fiddlers Rehearsal
7 p.m.
Chase Hall G03 and G04

Figure Drawing
6 p.m.
Olin Arts Center 259

Ladd Internship Information Meeting
12 p.m.
New Commons 200

Learn about Ladd Internship opportunities for summer 2010. Internships are open to application from sophomores and juniors.

Bates Christian Fellowship Meeting
8 p.m.
Chase Hall Hirasawa Lounge

Juggling Club Meeting
7 p.m.
Chase Hall, Skelton Lounge

Amandla! Club Meeting
7:30 p.m.
Multicultural Center Lounge

Investment Club Meeting
7:30 p.m.
Pettengill G54

Wind Down Wednesday: A Trip
Around New England
9 p.m.
Chase Hall Little Room

[Pause} for peace and quiet
9 p.m.
Chapel

Sponsored by the Multifaith Chaplaincy

Thursday, January 28

Mindfulness Meditation
12:10 p.m.
Chapel
Sponsored by the Multifaith Chaplaincy

Lecture: "Wand Me!": Assuming the (Subject) Position of
the Compliant Body in the Age of Terror"
4:15 p.m.
Pettigrew 200
English Professor Alan Nadel of the University of Kentucky
examines the rhetoric of airport security.

Anthro Lunch
12 p.m.
New Commons 211
Honors thesis student and winner of the Hamil Prize, Julia Caffrey '10
discusses her fieldwork on Japanese popular culture.

Envirolunch
12 p.m.
New Commons 221

Hillel Meeting
6 p.m.
New Commons 211

Lecture: Amy Stacey Curtis
7:00 p.m.
Olin Arts Center 104

Village Club Series: Alvin Lau
9 p.m.
Benjamin Mays Center

Friday, January 29

Filmboard Movie: "Paranormal
Activity"
7 p.m.
9:30 p.m.
Olin Arts Center 104

Asia Night
7:30
Schaeffer Theater

Join Sangai Asia for a variety performance showcasing Asian culture. No tickets required, but come early to get a seat!

Men's Hockey vs. Bryant College
9 p.m.
Underhill Arena

Magician Jay Mattioli Performs
9 p.m.
Benjamin Mays Center

Saturday, January 30

Filmboard Movie: "Paranormal
Activity"
2 p.m.
7:00 p.m.
Olin Arts Center 104

Asia Night
7:30
Schaeffer Theater

Join Sangai Asia for a variety performance showcasing Asian culture. No tickets required, but come early to get a seat!

The Aurn Quartet
7:30 p.m.
Olin Arts Center Concert Hall

The Aurn Quartet returns to continue the complete cycle of Beethoven string quartets that it began last year. Tickets \$4 for students at www.batestickets.com

BOC Lecture: "Trek to the North
Pole" featuring Tyler Fish '96
7:00
Chase Hall Lounge

Tyler Fish, who completed the first unsupported cross-country ski expedition to the North Pole, discusses his experiences.

Sunday, January 31

Filmboard Movie: "Paranormal
Activity"
2 p.m.
Olin Arts Center 104

The Aurn Quartet
3:00 p.m.
Olin Arts Center Concert Hall

The Aurn Quartet returns to continue the complete cycle of Beethoven string quartets that it began last year. Tickets \$4 for students at www.batestickets.com

College Republicans Meeting
7 p.m.
New Commons 222

Men's Hockey vs. Keen State
3:30 p.m.
Underhill Arena

Women's Hockey vs. UConn
1:30 p.m.
Underhill Arena

Protestant Worship Service
5:30 p.m.
Chapel

Men's Squash vs. Dartmouth
11 a.m.
Merrill Squash Center

Monday, February 1

International Club Meeting
6 p.m.
New Commons 131

Chase Hall Committee Meeting
8 p.m.
Chase Hall Hirasawa Lounge

Secular Student Alliance Meeting
7:30 p.m.
Pettengill 116

Bates Immigrant Rights
Advocates Meeting
8 p.m.
Multicultural Center Lounge

Robinson Players Meeting
9 p.m.
Chase Hall Skelton Lounge

Tuesday, February 2

Noonday Concert
12:30 p.m.
Olin Arts Center
Concert Hall

Latinos Unidos Meeting
6 p.m.
New Commons 211

Ladd Internship Information Meeting
3 p.m.
New Commons 200

Learn about Ladd Internship opportunities for summer 2010. Internships are open to application from sophomores and juniors.

Three in the top 21 for women's nordic

COREY HILL
STAFF WRITER

The women's nordic team traveled to the Sleepy Hollow Nordic Center in Huntington, Vt., to compete in the St. Michael's Carnival last weekend on Jan. 22nd and 23rd. The carnival was a two-day affair starting with a 10k freestyle race on Friday before concluding with a classic sprint relay on Saturday.

The Bobcats were greeted with crystal-clear conditions as they geared up for the race on Friday morning. The race covered a challenging course that featured two large climbs, some rolling sections, and a collection of steep and icy downhill corners.

Natalie Ruppertsberger '11 once again led the women's team with a 17th place finish out of the 95 total racers. Following Ruppertsberger was Captain Abby Samuelson '10, who skied to the best freestyle carnival finish of her career in 20th place – just eight seconds behind her teammate. Kirsten Gill '11 showed no ill effects from a semester in Aix-en-Provence, France, as she finished with a season-high 21st place finish – only 11 seconds behind Samuelson.

While the Bobcats were not quite able to match their impressive third place finish of last weekend, they ended the day in sixth place out of 12 teams.

Saturday's sprint relay was not an official NCAA qualifier; however, it brought a high level of excitement and competitiveness to the hundreds of spectators.

The rare format of the race consist-

ed of teams of three skiers with each skier racing a challenging one kilometer loop before tagging off to a teammate. Each skier took on the difficult course three times to make up a total of nine kilometers of racing for each relay team.

Ruppertsberger led Bates' first team of Samuelson and Gretchen Sellegren '13. As soon as the starting gun sounded, Ruppertsberger took command of the race, leading the field by five yards before they turned to head into the woods. When the lead women emerged, Ruppertsberger had slipped to fourth, but was in contact with the front group. Samuelson and Sellegren both skied strong races and kept Bates in the top 10 throughout the race. By the finish of the relay, the women crossed the line in eighth place.

Bates' second team of Megan McClelland '11, Gill and Sophie Leonard '12 also skied a strong relay, finishing 19th overall.

While the Bobcat's results were not up to their highest standards, the women were able to find the positives from the weekend.

"We had some really strong performances this weekend," said Ruppertsberger. "The results are not a good representation of how well we skied."

The women will attempt to translate these hard efforts into strong results next weekend as they compete in the Maine State Collegiate Championships on Jan. 31st in Rumford, Maine. Bates has lost the last two years to Colby, and the team has every intention of bringing back the elusive Chummy Broomhall Cup – the trophy awarded to the best team in Maine.

Women's squash cruises past Bowdoin and Colby

ALI BLANKSTEEN
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

The women's squash team kicked off this past weekend's slew of consecutive victories on Thursday with a Senior Night victory against NESCAC rival Colby College in a nearly pristine 8-1 handling of the Mules. The sole-loss against the Mules marked the only time all weekend that the team dropped a match. In succession, Bates added two more victories to their impressive 13-5 record (5-2 NESCAC) in 9-0 sweeps of no. 15 ranked Bowdoin College and no. 28 ranked Northeastern University on Saturday.

Thursday night's face-off against Colby began with an opening ceremony in which Head Coach Pat Cosquer and the team's junior class members paid a nostalgic tribute to the three seniors: Co-Captain Hannah Laverty, Co-Captain Whitney Roller and rookie squash team member Morgan Maciewicz. After doling out handfuls of flowers, sugary confections and words of sheer admiration and appreciation, the competition commenced.

For the evening, all three seniors emerged with 3-0 victories against their NESCAC rivals. The Bobcats dropped only one match for the competition, and the loss came at the ladder's fourth seat held by Mimi Neal '12. Despite the defeat, Neal fought hard and forced her adversary into

a fourth game after dropping the first two.

Two days later, the team pressed on to play Bowdoin on the Polar Bear's home courts in Brunswick, Maine. The Bobcats scratched their way to a clean 9-0 victory. First-seated player Cheri-Ann Parris '13 came back to defeat her Polar Bear opponent after dropping the first two games of her match.

"It was a great feeling to come back and beat the Polar Bears and redeem ourselves from an upsetting 5-4 loss from last season," said Roller. "The win has given us extra motivation to play well in the upcoming matches and if we can take down Mount Holyoke and Brown, we have an opportunity to move up in the rankings."

The day was not over after the victory over Bowdoin and the ladies immediately raced back home to the Bates Squash Center to host Northeastern in a Saturday evening showdown. The Huskies proved to be no match for the Bobcats, and they were defeated in another 9-0 shutout for Bates.

Parris, the team's highly talented first-year from Barbados, sat the competition out. The ladder was shifted up, and Laverty, Roller and Neal rounded out the top-three positions. The team failed to drop a single game to the visiting Huskies, taking all nine of the match-wins in three straight sets.

Bates hosts Columbia University this Friday at the Bates Squash Center.

Manter, Holland score top 10 finishes at St. Michael's Carnival

DANA POOL
STAFF WRITER

The alpine ski team concluded Winter Carnival week with a disappointing eighth place finish at the St. Michael's Carnival held at Smugglers' Notch Resort in Smugglers' Notch, Vt. Men's Co-Captain Ben Manter '11 and women's Co-Captain Micaela Holland '11 highlighted the weekend as each raced to a top-10 finish in Saturday's slalom event.

Manter scored a career-best eighth place finish on Saturday. Running in the latter half of the pack at bib 38, he attacked the first run and gained an improved starting position for the second run, where he delivered the sixth fastest time to move into eighth overall.

Additional strong performances in

coming weeks will help Manter rise in the rankings as he attempts to claim a spot in the NCAA Championships.

"It was a good day for me," said Manter. "We're still looking to get our guys rolling on the same day. When that happens, we should see some really strong results."

Holland placed 10th in the women's slalom race – a steady improvement from her top 15 finishes at Lake Placid a week ago.

Two other Bobcats climbed into the top 30 in the slalom. Zoe Livingston '13 and Caitlin Forbes '13 finished 18th and 26th, respectively.

"It was a good weekend for the women," said Holland. "We only have four skiers, so to put three in the top 26 is a solid result. The first-years are skiing well, and I think we can have some strong team results moving forward."

Friday's giant slalom race showcased lack-luster results in comparison to the stellar performances delivered in Saturday's slalom race. Holland bested teammates Kristen Waddle '13 and Livingston by one second as the trio finished 18th, 22nd and 23rd, respectively.

Alex Jones '12 led the men in the giant slalom with a 22nd place finish. Jones was followed closely by Manter in 24th while Ross Brockman '11 rounded out the scoring for the Bobcats with a 30th place finish.

The carnival circuit takes a one week hiatus this coming weekend. On Feb. 5th and 6th, the team heads to Stowe, Vt., for the University of Vermont Carnival.

The Bobcats will look for more consistency as they aim to have multiple finishers in the top 10 in both the slalom and giant slalom events.

Earthquake disaster in Haiti shakes us back to reality

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

cut open milk carton.

What's that? Jose Reyes, the 26-year-old superstar shortstop learned the game without a glove?

Yes, he did. He played baseball until the age of 13 without a glove and was signed by the New York Mets for \$22,000 just three years later.

If that is not enough for you, just seven years after Reyes received his first glove, he played his first major league game for the Mets.

Reyes tells the story of many Dominican born players. There are dozens of perennial All-Stars that come from the country, and while they are all multi-millionaires in the United States now, most of them came from a land marked by poverty.

There are few ways for Dominicans to escape the poverty that overwhelms their country, but baseball is one of them. The sport is more than a game for young boys: it is a dream and an emblem of hope to achieve success.

When players like Reyes are noticed by international scouts, they are signed and brought to the United States to begin their professional career in the minor leagues. Those that prove their worth at the lower levels are promoted to Class A, AA or AAA before ultimately reaching the major leagues.

Of the hundreds of Dominicans playing professional baseball every year, a select few reach the ultimate goal of the major leagues.

For those that reach that level, their background is never forgotten. Superstar players like Reyes, Pedro Martinez and David Ortiz have all donated large sums of money to their villages as they try to help their country prosper and eventually grow out of the poverty that they once experienced.

For those that don't make it, they are often cut from their teams and do not have enough money to stay in the United States. The result? A return to poverty.

You might have liked the Jose Reyes story, but it was just a precursor to what is actually important. While life in the Dominican Republic is tragic and difficult, it cannot compare to what is taking place further west in Haiti.

It has been two weeks since the devastating earthquake hit Port-au-Prince and disasters like this make sporting news completely trivial.

While the Super Bowl teams are set and college basketball is in the heat of its season, their importance is minimal. For the first time in my brief career as a journalist, I struggled to come up with a topic that was solely about sports.

The Dominican Republic and Haiti share the landmass of Hispaniola, but have little in common.

The former has the second largest economy in the Caribbean which is fueled by numerous tourist hot spots while the latter is the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere. In Haiti, the average Haitian lives on just over two dollars per day...before the earthquake hit.

The Dominican Republic continues to produce a majority of baseball's best players and consequently many of the richest contracts. Haiti has not produced a single major league player (Baltimore Orioles outfielder Félix Pie's parents are both Haitian; however, he was born in La Romana, Dominican Republic).

There is no Cinderella story for this poor nation. They have an economy that was sputtering before the earthquake and is now virtually stagnant. While the Dominican Republic has countless millionaire athletes, Haiti has few celebrities that can return and contribute to their nation.

Haiti needs help. Over one million

people have been left homeless and this number will continue to rise as living conditions worsen with time. Death tolls are over 150,000 and experts are saying that this number could rise to over 200,000. If we like the underdog as much as I think we do, then we can help this country in its attempt to recover from one of the largest natural disasters in history.

Haiti needed help a long time ago as they were faced with a failing economy, abominable infrastructure and extreme poverty. Help never came.

Now the world has witnessed this country's rock bottom, and relief efforts have been organized by the bunches. The athletic department at Bates is running a campaign to raise one dollar from every student-athlete who then collects a dollar from three other people.

I could care less if you are an athlete or not (you can even be a professor). I encourage you to give one dollar to help with the recovery of Haiti.

The Jose Reyes story makes us feel good. The odds were stacked against him but he didn't care for odds. He beat poverty and with the help of his baseball talent, lucrative contract and countless peers in major league baseball, continues to give back to his country in need.

Few of us have professional athletics in our futures. Even fewer of us have lucrative contracts waiting on the other side of graduation. That does not matter. One dollar seems like so little that it cannot possibly help, but it can. It is half of what a Haitian needs to live for a day.

Hundreds of millions of dollars have already been raised and every penny of that will be spent in a heartbeat. Donate at www.hopeforhaitinow.org or give a dollar to Athletic Director Kevin McHugh.

With enough help, this just might become the biggest Cinderella story of our lifetime.

WELCOME BACK STUDENTS!



PAPA JOHN'S
Better Ingredients.
Better Pizza.

*Having A Pizza Fund Shortage?
Have Mom Buy A
Papa John's Gift Card So
You Don't Starve!*

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<p>PAPA JOHN'S</p> <p>1 Small 1 Topping Pizza & A 20oz. Coca-Cola product for ONLY \$7.99</p> <p><small>Additional toppings extra. Customer responsible for applicable taxes & delivery charges. Offer valid for campus dorm/housing deliveries only. Expires 08/01/2010.</small></p>	<p>PAPA JOHN'S</p> <p>Any bread side item & 2 20oz. Coca-Cola products for ONLY \$7.75</p> <p><small>Any choice of other Desserts. Breadsticks or Garlic Parmesan Breadsticks. Customer responsible for applicable taxes & delivery charges. Offer valid for campus dorm/housing deliveries only. Expires 08/01/2010.</small></p>
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Men's track and field second to Division I athletes from U-Maine



JULIANA KIRKLAND/THE BATES STUDENT

Nick Barron '13 runs in the first indoor track meet of the season. The men were second to Division I University of Maine-Orono and they defeated the University of Southern Maine and Colby.

RYAN RICE CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The men's track team hosted their first meet of the indoor season on Friday Jan. 22nd and Saturday Jan. 23rd and had the rare opportunity to toe the line against Division I athletes from the University of Maine-Orono. Bates' Division III rivals, the University of Southern Maine and Colby also competed.

The pentathlon kicked off the meet on Friday evening, while the track and field events took place throughout the day on Saturday. The final team score ended with an expected victory by UMaine with 244 points; however, Bates was a close second with 214 points. USM and Colby trailed with 151.5 and 60.5 points, respectively.

"The wins were all impressive and it was nice to compete with a great team like the University of Maine," said Head Coach Al Fereshetian.

The men's team won numerous in-

dividual meets and took additional podium places in most events. The strong results allowed the Bobcats to secure second place behind UMaine.

Rich McNeil '10 won the shot put and the weight throw with heaves of 49 feet 07.75 inches and 57-09.50, respectively. The victories contributed key points to the team's overall score. McNeil's performance in the weight throw was strong enough to provisionally qualify him for the NCAA Championships and currently ranks him among the top-10 throwers in the nation.

Andrew Wortham '13 won the 5,000-meter run with a time of 15:29, qualifying him for Division III New England. Ryan Quinn '11 added a Bobcat victory in the 200-meter dash, winning in 23.45 seconds. Also among first-place finishers was Sam Goldstein '12, who took first in the pole vault with a top vault of 14-11.00.

The Bobcat's second-place finish in the meet was not solely due to the plethora of first place finishes. Argu-

ably, the win came from the strength and depth that the men showed in each event throughout the entire meet.

Mike Jiang '12 placed second in the 55-meter dash (6.70), while Tom Esponnette '11 added a second-place finish in the mile (4:24.49). Conor Welch '10 took third in the 800 (2:01.39).

Additionally, the men's distance medley relay team of Nick Barron '13, James LePage '13, Peter Corcoran '12 and Esponnette finished second with a time of 10:37.26.

"There is still a lot of work to be done. But, it is definitely nice to see things beginning to flower up," said Assistant Coach Todd Goewey. He further noted that the future for the men looks promising as they continue to further improve their skills and become more competitive.

The men will compete in the Terrier Classic at Boston University this Friday and again on Saturday at the USM Invitational at the University of Southern Maine.

Swimmers competitive in home meet with Colby

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

from-behind victory in the 400-freestyle relay along with teammates Katy Zingale '13, Catherine Sparks '13 and Emily Tato '12. The quartet won the event with a time of 3:44.61. Green also won the 50 and 100-yard freestyle events in 25.33 and 54.31, respectively.

Annaliese Rudis '10 posted an NCAA consideration mark in the one-meter dive, scoring 249.95 points. She also won the three-meter with 249.60 points.

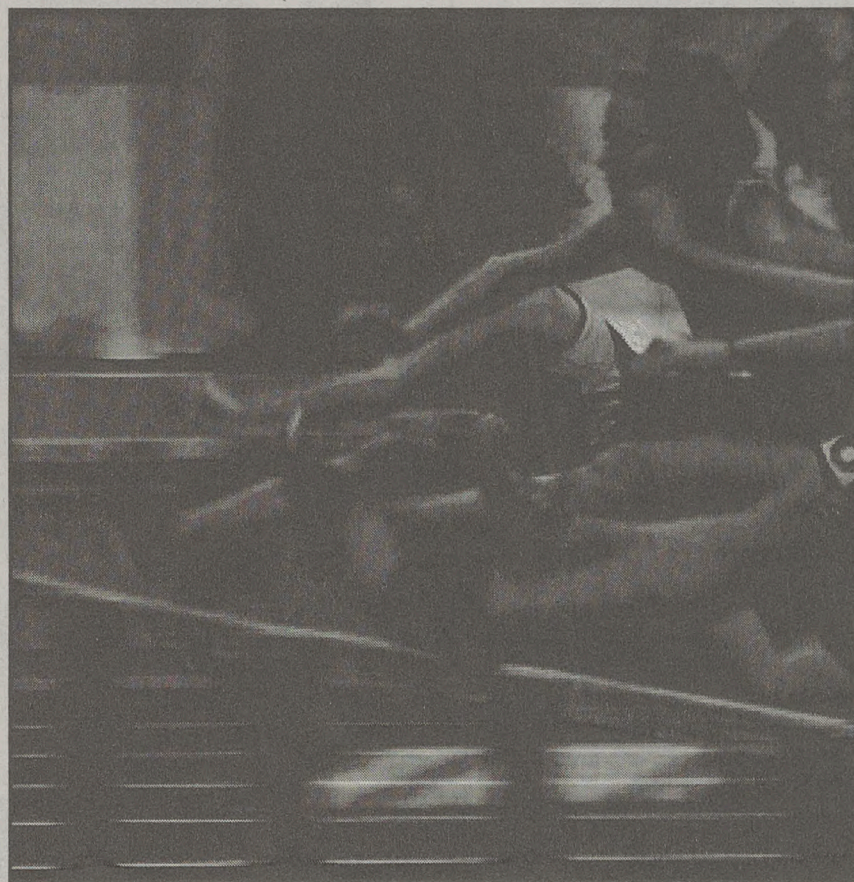
Co-Captain Katelyn Drake '10 won both the 200-yard backstroke in 2:13.08 and the 100-yard backstroke in 1:00.49. Over the past two seasons,

Drake has garnered All-American honors in both events. In addition to her individual victories, Drake teamed up with Sparks, Zingale and fellow Co-Captain Sarah Reingold '10 to win the 200-yard mixed medley relay event in a time of 1:53.08.

Sparks took second in the 100-yard breaststroke with a time of 1:10.35. Kara Leasure '12 was second in both the 200-yard breaststroke and the 1650-yard freestyle with times of 2:31.19 and 18:14.57, respectively.

Next weekend the Bobcats will travel to Medford, Mass., to compete against host Tufts University and Wheaton College in a tri-meet at Tufts.

Women's track second to Division I rival U-Maine



JULIANA KIRKLAND/THE BATES STUDENT

Tina Tobin '12 runs to sixth place in the 55-meter hurdles last Saturday.

NORA HANAGAN STAFF WRITER

The women's indoor track and field team had another successful meet at home this weekend. With 170 points, the Bobcats finished second only to Division I athletes from the University of Maine-Orono. Bates finished well ahead of Division III rivals Colby and the University of Southern Maine.

The women found most of their success in the throws as they swept the podium spots in the weight throw for the second weekend in a row. Vantiel Elizabeth Duncan '10 finished first in both the weight throw and shot put. Duncan's shot put traveled over eight feet beyond her closest competitor's toss. In addition to winning the event, Duncan achieved a personal indoor record and automatically qualified for the NCAA Championships. Following Duncan in the shot put were Sara Ellen Godek '11 and Laura Smith '10 in second and third, respectively.

Bates capped off the meet with a strong finish in the last event of the day as they won the distance medley relay. Lisa Reedich '13 gave the Bobcats a good start in the 1200-meter run and tagged off in the lead. Lisa Hartung '10 kept the lead on the second lag and was

followed by Bud Arens '13 and Katie Bash '10 who helped increase the winning gap to over 10 seconds ahead of the second place team from Colby.

Other podium efforts from the Bobcats included speedster Molly Radis '10, who was third in the 400-meter run with a time of 1:00.83. Arens finished second in the 600-meter run with a time of 1:44.67. Ansley Flanagan '13 contributed a third place finish in the high jump with a top leap of 4-09.00. Rounding out the podium finishes from Bates was Taylor Piers '12 who finished third in the triple jump with a top jump of 34-02.00.

Although points could only be scored for the top three athletes in each event from one given school, the large number of athletes on the team again proved to be an asset for the Bobcats. Head Coach Jay Hartshorn mentioned that competing against a Division I school was a great opportunity to see where Bates' athletes stacked up with regards to the NCAA as a whole. Hartshorn also mentioned that the raised level of competition pushed several athletes to reach new personal records.

The Bobcats head to Boston, Mass., on Friday, Jan. 29th for the Terrier Classic hosted by Boston University before competing in the USM Invitational in Portland, Maine the following day.

Men's nordic struggles at St. Michael's Carnival

BETH TAYLOR AND DAYNA STIMSON STAFF WRITERS

The men's nordic ski team held tough throughout a challenging weekend at the Saint Michael's Carnival at the Sleepy Hollow Nordic Center in Huntington, Vt., last Friday and Saturday.

The weekend started with a difficult 15k freestyle race. A challenging course with steep climbs and sharp, difficult descents made for tough racing conditions. At the end of the day, Lucas Milliken '13 posted the top result for Bates in 31st place. Following Milliken, and rounding out the scoring for Bates, were Captain Harry Poole '10 and Jimmy Burnham '12, in 52nd and 53rd, respectively.

"The results told the story for our team on Friday," said Poole. "Lucas hung tough and skied a strong race, but Brandon and I can't finish in the 50s. We were obviously disappointed, there is no arguing that."

Despite the challenging conditions, the Bates men looked forward to a classic sprint relay on Saturday. The race format called for teams of three skiers with each person racing around a one kilometer loop

before tagging off to a teammate. Each racer completed the loop three times.

A short course with tight space between racers led to close results with teams finishing only seconds apart. Bates' first team of Brandon Cooper '10, Milliken and Poole finished in 15th place – less than 30 seconds out of the top 10.

Bates' second team of Burnham, Corey Hill '13 and Dan Kuzio '13, finished in a respectable 23rd place. Dan Brodhead '13 raced for a mixed-school team which finished in 21st place overall.

"Friday was a tough day for the men," said Head Coach Becky Woods. "They rebounded well on Saturday, but we have some work to do before the carnival at UVM."

The Bobcats have a weekend off of the Carnival circuit but will compete in the Maine State Collegiate Championship on their home course at Black Mountain in Rumford, Maine.

The team hopes to reclaim the Chummy Broomhall Cup – the trophy awarded to best college ski team in Maine.

Editor's note: Harry Poole is the Managing Sports Editor of *The Bates Student*

BOBCAT OF THE WEEK

Rich McNeil '10



OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MEDIA RELATIONS/COURTESY PHOTO

In the first indoor track meet of the season, McNeil won both the shot put and the weight throw. His shot put just missed the provisional qualifying distance for the NCAA Championships; however, his weight throw of 57 feet 09.50 inches surpassed the provisional qualification and put McNeil among the top-10 in the country in the event.

Women's basketball struggles in NESCAC

HARRY POOLE MANAGING SPORTS EDITOR

After playing eight consecutive games on the road, the women's basketball team returned home to Alumni Gymnasium on Jan. 20th and picked up their first win since Jan. 5th as they defeated St. Joseph's College, 76-50.

Tri-Captain Lauren Yanofsky '10 led the way for the women with 13 points and nine rebounds. Allie Beaulieu '13, NESCAC Player of the Week from Jan. 11th, continued her strong first-year campaign with 12 points.

The win ended the Bobcats' five-game losing streak and gave them momentum heading into a weekend that featured NESCAC matchups against Bowdoin and Colby.

The women fell to no. 12 ranked Bowdoin on Friday night, 63-42. Bowdoin's strong defense held the Bobcats to a poor shooting night of less than 30 percent from the field. Yanofsky and Lauren Dobish '12 led Bates with 11 points apiece.

Following the loss to Bowdoin, the women prepared for a Saturday afternoon matchup against Colby.

Down 40-33 at halftime, Bates cut the lead to just one point with 1:43 remaining after a three-pointer from Beaulieu. Colby hit a three with 1:02 left and ran away with a 77-71 victory.

The women travel to New London, Conn., on Friday to face Connecticut College before heading to Middletown, Conn., to take on Wesleyan University.

SPORTS

The Bates Student

Men's hoops suffers against Bowdoin, Colby in overtime

A Cinderella story made, and one that needs our help



HARRY POOLE
MANAGING SPORTS
EDITOR

Jose Reyes grew up on the outskirts of Santiago in the Dominican Republic. His family was not wealthy, but his parents worked overtime to ensure that there would always be food on the table. Their house was made up of four walls and a tin roof, had no bathroom and traveling to their village of Palmar Arriba involved driving on a treacherous dirt road.

Today Jose Reyes is the All-Star shortstop for the New York Mets. He is one of the fastest players in major league baseball and has the ability to make difficult plays that few other major leaguers can.

His skills are impressive and in some ways unmatched. He is electric and exciting to watch in a game that many dub as too slow and boring. He marks a return to the old-fashioned shortstop – the one who could not hit anymore than 10 home runs but was paid to make fantastic plays on defense, steal bases, bunt and score runs by the bunches.

I am not a Mets fan and I never will be, so why am I fascinated by Jose Reyes?

Because I am moved by his background and road to fame.

In the United States, we are brought up to admire the Cinderella story. The movies that we watch and magazines that we read hammer this notion into our heads. We like them because they make us feel good inside. They are captivating and we are taught to love the story of the underdog.

Don't believe me? Think "Rudy," "Hoosiers," "Brian's Song" or the recent Hollywood hit, "The Blindside."

Jose Reyes was once the underdog. He came from poverty. He had to work at a young age to help his family stay afloat. He grew up playing baseball with his bare hands before eventually fielding grounders at shortstop with a

See "EARTHQUAKE", page 10

No. 11 men's squash rolls over NESCAC competition

ALI BLANKSTEEN
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

The men's squash team tacked three more victories onto their current six-game winning streak as they dropped Colby, Bowdoin and Northeastern in rapid succession this past week. In the three competitions, the Bobcats dropped only two total matches, both of which were incurred against the no. 15 ranked Polar Bears.

The week's competitions started on Wednesday at Colby, where the Bobcats swept the Mules in nine straight matches, advancing their in-conference record to 4-2.

By the conclusion of Friday's Senior Night competition against Bowdoin, the team was able to bump its conference record to its current 5-2 standing. The Bobcats beat the Polar Bears 7-2, signifying the team's 15th consecutive win against their Maine rivals. Clean, three-game sweeps were tallied by Tri-Captain Kush Mahan '10 at the first seat, Bobby Burns '12 at the fourth seat and R.J. Keating '13 at the eighth seat. Nick Echeverria '11 and Dae Ro Lee '11 each earned victories in five well-fought games at the fifth and sixth seats, respectively.

The team's impressive week of play was elegantly book-ended by yet another 9-0 sweep, this time of the Northeastern Huskies. Ranked 32nd in the nation, the Huskies were no match for the no. 11 ranked Bobcats, and they were forced to head back to Boston without winning a single game.

The men have hit their stride, and they look to keep their winning streak alive this weekend when they face-off against Columbia University on Friday at the Bates Squash Center.



JULIANA KIRKLAND/THE BATES STUDENT

Co-Captain Brian Ellis '11 takes on a double team from Bowdoin College last Friday. Ellis scored 19 points but Bates fell to the Polar Bears 74-70 in overtime.

PATRICK KING
STAFF WRITER

Heading into Wednesday's home game against St. Joseph's College, the men's basketball team had lost six of its last seven games and was in desperate need of a win as they looked to rebound in time for the looming NESCAC weekend against Bowdoin and Colby. St. Joseph's came into the game with an impressive record of 10-3 in addition to a victory over the Bobcats last January.

After trading baskets with the Monks for part of the first half, Bates went on a 22-2 run before heading to the locker room with a 50-31 lead. Alex Gallant '11 scored four straight baskets during the run, while Co-Captain Marshall Hatch '10 and Nick Schmiemann '11 both knocked down three-pointers to add to the lead. The run was kept alive by stifling defense from Bates as

they forced five turnovers.

The second half opened up with each team trading baskets until St. Joe's started to sink nearly every shot they took. The Bobcat's hot shooting and soft defense allowed the Monks to close the gap to as little as 10 points; however, Co-Captain Brian Ellis '11 hit two free throws and Bates eventually ran away with a 95-84 victory. Schmiemann led the Bobcats with 21 points.

On the heels of the solid performance against St. Joseph's, the Bobcats had high hopes leading up to Friday night's matchup against Bowdoin. With the crowd donning all-black clothing, the energy level inside Alumni Gymnasium was at a season high.

Spurred on by the raucous crowd, Bates was led by Co-Captain Brian Ellis '11 and Marc Brust '13 with 19 and 17 points, respectively. Bates never led in the second half, but had a chance to win with

a final shot from Schmiemann. Schmiemann held the ball until the clock rolled down to five seconds. Unfortunately, Bowdoin's defense forced Schmiemann into a fall-away three-pointer that came up short.

In overtime, the evenly matched teams traded baskets for the first four minutes until Ellis missed a pair of free throws that would have tied the game with 31 seconds remaining. Bowdoin made key free throws down the stretch and pulled away with a 74-70 victory. The was Bowdoin's first win in Alumni Gymnasium since 2007.

The Bobcats had little recovery time after Friday night's battle as they hosted Colby in an afternoon match up on Saturday. Colby's performance up to this point in the season has put them among the favorites to challenge for the NESCAC Championship in February.

The Mules continued their strong

play with their second overtime victory against Bates this season, running away in the final minutes to win 73-66. Schmiemann led Bates once again with 19 points in the losing effort.

Bates led the entire game until 46 seconds remaining when Colby jumped out to a sudden six-point lead. With the game on the line, Marshall Hatch '10 buried two deep three-pointers in the last 12 seconds to tie the game and send Bates to overtime for the second consecutive night. Colby separated themselves from the Bobcats in overtime though with consecutive three-point plays and a streak of free throws after Bates was forced to foul.

Despite the devastating losses, Bates looks for their first NESCAC victories this weekend when they travel to Connecticut to take on Connecticut College and Wesleyan University on Friday and Saturday, respectively.

Men's swimming beats Colby, women lose by 10 points



CAROLINE SOLLMANN/THE BATES STUDENT

Ned Scott '12 swims to victory in the 100-yard butterfly. Scott also won the 200-yard butterfly and was a member of the winning 400-yard freestyle relay team. The men beat Colby in the final home swim meet of the season.

KATIE BASH
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

The 400-yard freestyle relay team of Dan Aupi '12, Ned Scott '12, Nathaniel Depew '12 and Tom Boniface '12 capped off the men's swimming and diving victory over Colby on Jan. 23rd.

The quartet set a new pool record in the process with a time of 3:14.77. This was over two seconds faster than the previous mark of 3:17.00 set last year by Chris Berry '09, Scott, Boniface and Depew.

In addition to the relay, Aupi, Scott and Depew each won two other events.

Aupi took the 100-yard freestyle with a time of 49.10 seconds and the 100-yard backstroke in 54.81. Scott won the 100 and 200-yard butterfly events in 53.26 and 2:07.06, respectively. Depew won the 200-yard backstroke in 2:00.11 and the 200-yard freestyle in 1:49.18, while Andrew Buehler '13 won the 200-yard

individual medley in 2:06.65.

The women fell to the Mules by a mere 10 points, ultimately losing 153-143. Despite the defeat, the Bobcat women posted some exciting performances.

Charlotte Green '11 led a come-

See "SWIMMERS", page 11